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17 February 1985

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AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL DAILY EDITORIALS VIEW FOREIGN SCENE

Canberra's SRV Policy 'Fatuous'

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 24 Dec 84 p 24

[Editorial: "Stalin Reborn in Asia"]

[Text]

THE conviction and sentencing in Ho Chi Minh City of 21 Vietnamese on charges of treason bear many marks of the Stalin show trials of the 30s. Representatives of the foreign press have been allowed to watch the trials, but soldiers intervened when one of the accused tried to speak to a foreign reporter. The so-called "defence" lawyers claimed their task was almost impossible because of the obvious guilt of their "clients". The defendants were accused of participating in elaborate foreign conspiracies, this time allegedly involving China, the USA and Thailand.

Although it is impossible to judge the detail of the charges laid against the Vietnamese dissidents, the trials look remarkably like a crude replication of the Stalinism of the 30s. Having the defence lawyer accuse his own clients is a particularly Stalinesque touch.

However, the recent show trials are simply the latest indication that Vietnam has instituted one of the most thorough-going totalitarian societies in the world today. The echoes of history are eerie.

When Stalin's genocidal collectivisation of the peasants in the 30s produced one of the world's worst famines, resulting in the deaths of millions of Russians, George Bernard Shaw was just one of many western, liberal visitors to the Soviet Union who found the peasants well fed, and admired Soviet society. Noble exceptions such as Malcolm Muggeridge discovered and told the truth, but in general the ghastly reality of Soviet society at that time impinged very little on western consciousness.

A similar syndrome of indifference, disbelief or downright dishonesty, seems to cloud our perceptions of the realities of Indo-China since the fall of Saigon in 1975. What has happened in Indo-China in the past nine years ranks as one of the great genocidal disasters of the 20th century.

Within their own society the Vietnamese communists have been savagely totalitarian. Perhaps as many as a million people have risked their lives fleeing Vietnam in that time. When the French, and later the Americans, held sway in Vietnam

people did not flee in these numbers.

The Vietnamese Government has brutally suppressed religious freedom, jailing Catholic and Buddhist leaders alike. In their network of "re-education" camps, the Vietnamese have replicated the Gulag Archipelago, with political torture, malnutrition, corruption, indiscriminate killings - all the traditional accompaniments of the euphemism "re-education".

Vietnam has a huge, dominant military establishment and maintains

armies of occupation in Kampuchea and Laos. Vietnam has recently launched yet another offensive against rebel camps in Kampuchea. All of which makes Australia's singularly useless diplomatic overtures towards Vietnam look even more fatuous.

In this infamous century the infamy of Vietnam's communist warlords stands high. The proper position for Australia is one of condemnation of Vietnam's actions and solidarity with our friends in South-East Asia who fear her imperialist ambitions.

USSR Afghanistan War Hit

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Dec 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Afghanistan--True Face of Imperialism"]

[Text]

TOMORROW is the fifth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The Soviets invaded that nation in 1979, after a long period of interference in its internal affairs, in order to establish a puppet regime which would do their bidding. In the five years since, the Soviets have waged a war of gruesome savagery, against the Afghan people.

According to a recent report by the human rights group, Helsinki Watch, which monitors compliance with the Helsinki human rights accords, Soviet troops in Afghanistan have been guilty of every form of human rights violation, including, recently, the torture of children. The Soviets have stationed 100,000 troops there, hundreds of villages have been destroyed, five million people made homeless, and three million have fled as refugees to Pakistan, causing that nation enormous problems. Hundreds of thousands have died. The Soviets have extended their brutal empire with their usual consideration for human rights.

The most extraordinary thing about the war in Afghanistan, however, has been the heroic resistance of the Mujahedin guerillas. Loyal to their villages, their country and their religion, the Mujahedin have defied the military might of the world's greatest totalitarian power.

That this resistance has managed to keep going for five years is an extraordinary testament to the power of human resourcefulness and determination. The three eternal values, religion, nation and family, the three points of perennial inspiration, appear in Afghanistan to have slowed, if not stopped, the Soviet military juggernaut.

There are important lessons for the West in the Soviet Union's behavior in Afghanistan. For a start, the war makes a complete mockery of Soviet protestations that it is seeking world peace and disarmament. The Soviets are plainly an aggressive, imperialist superpower bent on increasing their own sphere of influence wherever possible.

The Afghan war also illustrates the completely contradictory nature of democratic and totalitarian political systems. Those members of the peace movement around the world who argue that the US and the USSR are essentially similar superpowers which must abandon the mutual folly of the arms race should look closely at the Afghan war. There is no symmetry at all between US and Soviet foreign policy.

The aggression of Soviet foreign policy appears to flow at least in part from the dynamics of its internal

politics. Foreign enemies are needed to justify internal repression.

The Soviets have imposed blanket censorship on news from Afghanistan, so that the long and bloody struggle has received only sporadic and patchy reporting at best. The Soviets have therefore avoided paying the political price which their aggression warrants.

The Mujahedin guerillas are aptly called freedom fighters. They deserve the continued support of the Western alliance. Their noble struggle for freedom should not be forgotten or abandoned by the nations of the West.

SRV Cambodia Activities Condemned

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 27 Dec 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Kampuchea's Bloody Year Zero Continues"]

[Text]

THE news that Vietnam has stepped up operations against rebel camps in western Kampuchea indicates a renewed drive on the part of the Vietnamese to establish complete control of Kampuchea. Vietnam invaded Kampuchea in 1978 and set up a puppet regime under Heng Samrin. In the course of this invasion the Vietnamese put an end to the genocidal Pol Pot regime, whose Year Zero "re-education" program was directly responsible for the deaths of millions of Kampucheans.

The ending of Pol Pot's murderous regime is sometimes cited as a moral justification for the Vietnamese invasion. However, the reality is that Vietnam's motives bore little regard for Kampuchean human rights. The Pol Pot regime had followed a collectivist ideology based on Chairman Mao's thought, and in itself this was not a problem for the Vietnamese, who also follow a violent and repressive collectivist ideology.

What the Vietnamese did object to was Pol Pot's alliance with China, which is a rival with Vietnam for influence in the region. Vietnam is allied closely with the Soviet Union. The regime which the Vietnamese subsequently installed in Kampuchea, while not nearly so barbarous as Pol Pot, is nonetheless violently repressive. It is run mostly by former Pol Pot henchmen, and is maintained purely through the military might of the Vietnamese army. Vietnam maintains an army of occupation in Kampuchea estimated at between 160,000 and 180,000.

The strength of the resistance to Vietnamese rule can be gauged by the fact that the Vietnamese need to keep an army in Kampuchea which is much larger than the Soviet army in Afghanistan. The dry season has in recent years seen an annual anti-guerilla drive by the Vietnamese. Vietnam's woefully sick and inefficient economy remains heavily burdened by

the demands of waging a continuing war in Kampuchea, and Vietnam is striving for a final military solution there.

However, the Kampuchean forces of resistance appear durable. They are comprised of forces loyal to Pol Pot, another group loyal to Prince Sihanouk, and a third force under the command of the former Kampuchean prime minister, Son Sann. Some of the rebel groups receive assistance from the Chinese.

The tragedy of the present Vietnamese offensive is the number of civilians who will be killed or wounded. Many Kampucheans detest Vietnamese rule, and tens of thousands of non-combatant civilians, women and children, have fled to rebel camps in western Kampuchea. Already, in the latest attacks, more

than 60,000 Kampucheans have been forced to escape into Thailand. The Vietnamese military appears quite happy to wage war against civilians as well as military forces.

There appears to be little that can be done at this stage to limit Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea. The argument that, by condemning Vietnam's actions strongly in the forums of the world, Western nations will increase Vietnam's dependence on the Soviet Union is unconvincing. Vietnam is tied to the Soviet Union by economic, military and ideological considerations: it is part of the Soviet sphere of influence. Its aggressions in Kampuchea are part of Soviet aggressions worldwide, and should be condemned by all civilised nations.

CSO: 4200/449

AUSTRALIA

COMMENTARY ON HAYDEN'S POLICIES HITS U.S.

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 24 Dec 84 p 6

[Commentary by Peter Hastings: "The US Plays Heavy"]

[Text]

IT WOULD be foolish to believe as some do that the Reagan Administration plots Mr Hayden's removal from office. It simply can't. Australia is not Chile and Bill Hayden is not Allende.

It has to work with him just as it must work with a dozen other foreign ministers whose friendly criticism it may have cause to resent from time to time. Even so there are certainly some in the Pentagon concerned with US nuclear policies, and a few in the State Department concerned with ANZUS, who would not grieve if Bill Hayden fell through a large black hole in space.

Those in the Pentagon around Mr Richard Perle, whose intellectually hard nuclear line has earned him the dubious sobriquet, "Prince of Darkness", would find Mr Hayden's attitudes to nuclear arms control and his fluctuating views on the US facilities somewhat uncongenial.

There is undoubtedly tension. One sign is the recently-lodged US *dé marche* on America's nuclear arms control attitudes but it was directed not to Foreign Affairs but to the Prime Minister's Department.

This was a deliberate, clumsy attempt to make relations awkward between Mr Hawke, who believes to an absurd degree in the sanctity of the US relationship and Mr Hayden, who if anything underestimates its value both to Australia and the United States.

The growing difference between US and Australian nuclear arms control views has given Washington, already concerned with Mr Lange's stand on visits by nuclear warships, cause to worry over ANZUS.

Mr Hayden is to some extent a victim of his own acuity. No Australian politician has more quickly perceived the political importance of Australia's NDP generation or of the situation in New Zealand which led its Prime Minister to ban visits by US nuclear-powered or nuclear-armed vessels.

This, combined with a desire to pluck a few feathers from the American eagle's tail, has caused Bill Hayden at times to pursue somewhat contradictory lines. No one, for example, has been more persuasive than he in selling the value to Australians of the US facilities.

In *Uranium Joint Facilities, Disarmament and Peace*, published in July under Mr Hayden's authority, the Foreign Minister, in effect, argues against removing the facilities on two grounds — removing won't stop us being nuked; and that if Australia abolished Pine Gap and Narrungar it "would be seriously damaging to the prospects of agreements on the limitations" of superpower nuclear arms. Abolishing the facilities would achieve "exactly the opposite of what we would have set out to achieve".

And yet earlier this year, after the Geneva meeting, Mr Hayden said that Australia might be able to use the facilities as bargaining chips to persuade the United States to a more amenable stand on a comprehensive test ban treaty.

Now he cannot have it both ways and the United States has virtually told us so. Either the facilities are what he claims they are, helpful to arms control agreements and for that reason should be kept, or they are not, and should go.

It is equally interesting to read him on the ANZUS treaty at the review meeting in Washington and what he said in Sydney three years ago to the Institute of International Relations, where he referred to a "treaty in the vaguest terms" which did not bring American help "over Borneo, nor over West Irian ..." and so on.

It's highly doubtful that ANZUS was ever intended to encompass backyard fights of this sort although the United States, at our behest, did warn Indonesia at the time that if it had thoughts about PNG it should forget them. ANZUS is not a fail-safe treaty. No treaty in the world is.

ANZUS has worked well for us, and for the Americans, in many respects. Under it Australia and New Zealand has enjoyed a secure strategic environment, have grown in strength and have had access to an enormous volume of crucial regional and global intelligence.

ANZUS has underpinned the ANZAC relations with the South

Pacific and in particular established an important dimension to the framework on Australia's relations with ASEAN, Japan and China, all three anxious about Soviet influence in the Pacific.

For these reasons it has also been important to the United States, something Canberra and Wellington should bear in mind. By the same token the Pentagon and State Department are now behaving in an arrogant, unfriendly and not very intelligent fashion.

The United States is guilty of various miscalculations. It underestimates the depth of popular feeling in New Zealand over the nuclear warship issue. It thinks erroneously that Australia will do its dirty work and "heavy" New Zealand into a policy change.

The United States has now intimated to us that if New Zealand continues to refuse US nuclear ship visits it may well be cut off from all access to US intelligence. This is not only a serious problem for New Zealand, which may also face US export problems, but a serious problem for us.

It will not be possible for Australia to let New Zealand have US intelligence on the sly even if Wellington expected we would. And we could not forgo the intelligence because we need it. It would in fact be the end of ANZUS.

And that is something New Zealand will have cause for regret. So will we. And so will Washington including some of its less attractive Reaganites.

CSO: 4200/449

AUSTRALIA

ROK CUTS \$9 MILLION IMPORTS AFTER TARIFF CHANGE

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 24 Dec 84 p 9

[Text]

SEOUL, Sunday: More than \$9 million worth of iron ore and coal for South Korea's Pohang Iron and Steel Co, originally expected to be supplied by Australia, will now be sourced from other countries.

South Korea's Trade and Industry Ministry announced today it had decided not to buy from Australia 150,000 tonnes of iron ore, worth some \$3.3 million at current prices, and 100,000 tonnes of coal, worth \$5.8 million.

The ministry said the move was in retaliation for Australia's recent removal of developing country status which formerly allowed Korean steel to enter Australia at a preferential tariff rate, and also for the heavy trade deficit in Australia's favour.

Some industry analysts say the recent Hunter Valley train dispute, estimated to have held up some 400,000 tonnes of coal urgently needed by South Korea, could have further soured the Koreans' attitude.

Ministry officials said the iron ore and coal needed for the Pohang plant will be purchased

from other countries. South Korea's annual imports from Australia include 5 million tonnes of iron ore and 3 million tonnes of coal, at a combined value of more than \$180 million.

The removal of the preferential tariffs involved Korean steel plate worth \$20.2 million last year.

The South Koreans claim Australia has done little to correct the trade imbalance between the two nations, which has risen from \$US616 million in 1981 to \$US638 million in 1983.

In Canberra, a spokesman for the Trade Minister, Mr Dawkins, said the Government had been aware of South Korean concern over the removal of developing country preferences on some of its steel products. The South Korean action would be studied.

In November, a senior Korean Government official, Energy and Resources Vice-Minister, Mr Lee Bong-Su, said in Canberra Australia could damage its exports by removing the preferences.

Asked then if it was possible Korea would look to other sources for its raw materials, he said: "If I were the Pohang steel mill's manager I would think along that line."

Opposition spokesman on trade, Mr Tom McVeigh, said yesterday that Korea's tough stand should set an example for Australia in its trade relations.

"Australia is being sold down the drain by the huffing and puffing of the Hawke Government in international trading arrangements," he said from his home in Toowoomba, Queensland.

Mr McVeigh said the retaliatory decision by South Korea not to buy Australian coal and iron ore for its Pohang steel mill should show the Government Australia had to "apply the rules of international trade in a similar tough manner."

"The price paid for being nice to everyone has been the Australian share of trade to Japan and Korea put in the bank accounts of American and EEC business people," he said.

"The Hawke Government needs to adopt retaliatory measures just as has been done by other countries.

"In this way other countries will respect us as tough opponents and not treat us as fairy floss negotiators who melt away when the pressure is on."

AAP-AFP

CSO: 4200/449

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

MORE SCIENTISTS AT ANTARCTIC BASES--Australia will review its 10-year rebuilding program in Antarctica to allow for an increase in the number of scientists working there. The director of the Department of Science's Antarctic Division, Mr (Bleazle), said there were too many support personnel and not enough scientists at the three Australian bases--Casey, Mawson, and Davis. Mr (Bleazle) said he was concerned that only a quarter of the people Australia had at its bases were involved in research and data collection. He said Australia needed to increase its scientific activity if it was to preserve its influence in Antarctic affairs. Mr (Bleazle) said a review team would look at the current rebuilding program and come up with ways of reducing the need for a large Antarctic-based work force. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 26 Jan 85]

WHITLAM RAPS U.S. DIPLOMATIC SERVICE--Australia's ambassador to the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, Mr Gough Whitlam, has strongly criticized the quality of the American diplomatic service. The former Australian prime minister told a news conference in Canberra that the American diplomatic service was handicapped by having amateurs at the top. Mr Whitlam said Australia would never dream of appointing diplomats with as little qualifications and skills as most U.S. diplomats. He said American heads of missions were inadequate for the role of a great power. The blame lay with successive American presidents and with the American Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Mr Whitlam made his remarks during a meeting of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO. The United States withdrew from UNESCO at the end of last year and Britain has indicated it also will withdraw. Mr Whitlam described the American withdrawal as a severe blow to the only international forum for the discussion of many crucial issues. He said the United States had withdrawn because it could no longer control UNESCO's agenda with developing countries now forming a majority of members. Mr Whitlam said America did not want UN organizations to become vehicles for discussions and actions wanted by the majority of the world's countries. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 25 Jan 85]

CSO: 4200/468

CAMBODIA

SIHANOUK INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT VISIT

BK301640 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1030 GMT 30 Jan 85

[30 January interview granted by President of CGDK Prince Norodom Sihanouk to unidentified Voice of Free Asia reporter in Bangkok--recorded]

[Text] [Question] What is your wish when you come here to Thailand this trip? What would you like to do and what would be your aim? What would you like to accomplish?

[Sihanouk] In my capacity as president of Democratic Kampuchea, each year I have to preside over a special and important working session of the CGDK with the distinguished participation of our prime minister, His Excellency Son Sann, and Vice President Khieu Samphan of Democratic Kampuchea. We have to examine altogether the situation of our armed resistance against the Vietnamese aggressors and invaders and we have to examine all problems which Cambodia is facing and we have to try to solve them as the legal government for Cambodia, for Kampuchea. We are recognized as the legal government of Cambodia by the United Nations organization. So it is our duty to do our best in order to solve the national problems of Kampuchea. But the main problem remains, and will--I fear--will remain for a few years ahead--the Vietnam-Kampuchea problem. So we have also to examine such a problem, which is very, very, important.

And secondly, I have to encourage personally, and to present to our freedom fighters, the population in the free zone of Kampuchea; I have to present a few aids--material, financial aids, to them. And so each year when I have the possibility to do so I am always very happy to see my compatriots in the free zone of Kampuchea--to see and to be able to encourage directly the freedom fighters, the officers, and other members of the armed forces of our coalition.

And thirdly, I have to receive credentials from ambassadors of friendly countries. They are countries which are willing to give us full support in our endeavour to liberate our country, in our effort made to liberate our country. So they accredit to Democratic Kampuchea, whose I am the president, ambassadors. [sentence as heard] So each year, there are a certain number of ambassadors, new ambassadors who have to present their credentials to the Kampuchean head of state, to the president of Democratic Kampuchea. So I have to go to the free zone of Kampuchea to receive them.

So my purpose in the framework of my present trip is the same as the one I had in the previous years, 1982, 1983, 1984. So may I avail myself of this opportunity to express my most respectful and profound gratitude to the Royal Kingdom of Thailand, who is so good as to help us, support us in a very noble fashion, and to give me all facilities to reach very easily the free zone of Kampuchea to fulfill, in order to fulfill my duties as the chairman of the coalition and the president of the State of Democratic Kampuchea.

[Question] Are you going to visit any camps inside Thailand, visit your people, the refugees, the displaced persons at all?

[Sihanouk] I would like to see also my compatriots inside Thailand, but my program inside Thailand must be laid, must be worked out by Thai authorities. They are competent in the matter. So it is up to competent Thai authorities to make for me the program of my activities inside the Kingdom of Thailand. And as far as the free zone of Kampuchea is concerned, so my government and myself we are responsible for the program.

[Question] What are you going to do to cope with the Vietnamese plan to try and divide you, between your coalition government, your unity? Do you have anything to counter them?

[Sihanouk] We are united, and not divided. And last night at the airport Prime Minister Son Sann, Vice President Khieu Samphan and all the high ranking personalities of the tripartite coalition, they were present at the airport of Don Muang in order to wish me alongside Thai high ranking personalities and the ambassadors of friendly countries. You can see then that we remain well united and I am going to have a very friendly meeting with--summit meeting with--the two other leaders of the tripartite coalition: Prime Minister Son Sann and Vice President Khieu Samphan. I am going to preside over a new working session of our coalition government, government with the participation--close, very close to me--of Prime Minister Son Sann and Vice President Khieu Samphan and on the 31st of October [as heard] I will be accompanied by Prime Minister Son Sann to see, to meet with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. I think that, you know, the Vietnamese, they will always fail in their attempts to divide us. And when the Vietnamese troops attacked Son Sann's camps, like Nong Samet, or Nong Chan, units from my army participated, were participating in the defense of Nong Chan and Nong Samet alongside Son Sann. That means that we remain very united.

[Question] I think that will be the last question for the day. I hope I'll have further chance, opportunity to interview Your Excellency, Your Royal Highness again. Thank you very much indeed.

[Sihanouk] Thank you very much; Thank you so much.

CSO: 4200/481

CAMBODIA

COLUMNIST SCORES SIHANOUK PAST

Paris MOUL KHMER in French Dec 84 pp 5,6

[Article by Sok Vannak: "Forgotten Victims"]

[Text] With the passing years--soon [it will be] ten years since the capture of Phnom Penh by the Khmer Rouge, the beginning of a tragedy that is continuing even today--some people tend to forget the countless Cambodian victims of "Indochinese" communism. Prince Sihanouk himself, who speaks so readily of "his" Cambodia as if belonged only to him, also seems to have a rather short memory. With his usual egocentrism, he appears to be more sensitive to his own minor personal annoyances than to the sufferings of "his" people.

When he was invited to go to Montreal on the occasion of his stay in New York for the 39th session of the UN General Assembly, he refused to set foot in Canada. In an answering telegram dated 4 September addressed to the Venerable Hok Savann, he set forth the reasons for his refusal: "I still have serious problems with the anti-Sihanouk Khmers and remain much pained by the sorrowful memory of my previous stay in Montreal; it was a terrible nightmare for me". This strange explanation seems outrageous to us, to say the least. In fact, how can one say he is "much pained" and speak of a terrible nightmare because he was "ragged" a little by his compatriots who, themselves, do not have a short memory? For someone who still wants to play a leader's role, is that not a matter of the "occupational hazards?" And do not the nationalist Khmers have a right to express their disapproval openly if they consider the "leader" in question bears some responsibility in the cruel trials of the Cambodian people?

The princely comments are all the more shocking to us since they were never used by their author to deplore the trials in question. On the contrary, the latter seem to have left him rather cold, to say the least. In fact, in the spring of 1970 our former chief of state was not "pained" when we had to confront Vietnamese aggression almost barehandedly. On the contrary, he was siding with our aggressors. Nor was he pained in the spring of 1975 when the people of Phnom Penh, with the capital encircled, lived through indescribable agony under the uninterrupted fire of rockets of the Khmer Rouge, his allies at that time. As for the monstrous genocide which followed the latter's

victory, he did not experience it as a "terrible nightmare." He merely bewailed his own misfortunes when Pol Pot and his gang, having no further use for him, placed him under house arrest. Since that time one has not heard of his shedding many tears over the two million victims of genocide. And the current fate of our compatriots, enslaved by the North Vietnamese invaders, does not seem to move him very much, and in any case it does not prevent him from holding a revel whenever he can. His persistent habit of publishing in his "Monthly Bulletin of Documentation" the menus of the copious banquets in which he frequently takes part is revealing in that regard.

Hence, our man is only "pained" when Cambodians are no longer willing to grovel before him, with their foreheads in the dust, but [instead] shout out their indignation at his political errors which led us into the hands of the Khmer Rouge, and then, today, into the expansionist Vietnamese Communists' hands. Then, it is a "terrible nightmare" for him, but in no way inspired by remorse for his previous collusion with the executioners and oppressors of the Khmer people. A people who would very much prefer never to have known any other nightmare than the one Sihanouk complains of. A mild nightmare, in truth, compared with the endless and authentic one lived by millions of Cambodians throughout the last fourteen years. But that means little to their former leader, who was "pained" because one day he had to listen to some unpleasant truths in Montreal (and more recently in Minneapolis). Nothing more than that was needed to cause him "pain".

Let us pity him, in a way, for being to such an extent victim of his deplorable tendency to relate everything to himself. But above all let us pity the true victims, innocent and nameless, who perished by the hundreds of thousands in Cambodia, either from the North Vietnamese or from the Khmer Rouge. Today these victims are too often forgotten; and the Prince never had many words of compassion for them. It is true that those responsible for their sufferings and their atrocious end were his allies and even his "friends", if one were to recall his former embraces with the leaders of Hanoi, the Vietcong "brothers", and the chiefs of the Khmer Rouge. For the Prince there can thus be a "terrible nightmare" other than the one he inflicted on himself, one caused by the reprobation of his compatriots.

The only decent attitude that "Monseigneur" could adopt in relation to the victims of his long collaboration with our enemies would be to step aside, to let himself be forgotten, to closet himself in silence and retirement, to agree finally to disappear from the political scene. But apparently that is asking too much of him. At least let him have the dignity to stop talking to us about a "painful memory" because he was booed in Montreal. Because, in the true sense of the term, there is no painful memory other than the memory of the numberless victims whom the Cambodian and Vietnamese communists caused to die under conditions we all know about. Those are victims one should not forget, rather than speaking of "nightmare" exclusively in connection with oneself and for a quite trivial reason, in the last analysis: a self-esteem wounded by well-deserved reproaches. Not very much, to tell the truth.

9772

CSO: 4219/24

CAMBODIA

SIHANOUK 'SADDENED' BY U.S. DIPLOMAT'S CHARGE

BK010134 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 1 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] Khmer resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk was yesterday visibly upset by an allegation that his faction undermined the other two partners in his anti-Vietnam coalition.

The prince said he was saddened that his faction, the Army of Nationalist Sihanoukians (ANS), was accused by a Bangkok-based U.S. diplomat of "subversion" against the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), and the Khmer Rouge.

In his most emotional moment during a news conference at the Hyatt Central Plaza, the prince revealed that the unidentified diplomat accused him during a meeting with his son, Prince Norodom Rannaridh, that ANS drew some military units from KPNLF and the Khmer Rouge last year.

The military units did defect to ANS expressing desire to join the Sihanoukians, but "I told them: Please go home (back to their factions)," according to the prince with sudden tears in his eyes.

He said he did so because he did not want to be accused of subversion against his partners.

"But even the Americans accused us so," he said.

The prince was again emotional when he responded to a question why although he is regarded as the most popular Khmer leader, his faction is the smallest of all the three coalition partners.

"A European lady supposed to be French also asked me the same question in Scandinavia. She said I was pretending to be the most popular Khmer," he said.

He added: "I told her: No, I don't pretend to be the most popular and I am working now to achieve a UN-supervised general election in Kampuchea."

He said that if military strength is taken as a "barometer" to measure popularity, then the Khmer Rouge, now commanding over 50,000 guerrillas, is the most popular and the Heng Samrin regime is next, given its 30,000-men-strong army.

"The KPNLF of Mr Son Sann is the third most popular and Sihanouk the fourth," he said.

He added that the ANS had grown from 6,000 men last year to 10,000 well-armed troops now.

CSO: 4200/481

CAMBODIA

UN CHIEF BLAMES SIHANOUK MIX-UP ON 'POOR' FRENCH

BK020213 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Feb 85 p 18

[Text] UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar suggested yesterday that either he or Democratic Kampuchean President Prince Norodom Sihanouk should brush up their French because of misunderstandings arising from their talks on Thursday.

The United Nations chief executive raised the question over his and the prince's proficiency in French twice during a news conference at the Oriental Hotel.

Mr Perez de Cuellar denied telling Prince Sihanouk that he was optimistic about the Kampuchean problem.

The prince on Thursday told reporters after his meeting with the UN chief that Mr Perez de Cuellar had reiterated his optimism although admitting a solution was a long way off.

The UN chief said he was not optimistic "as Prince Sihanouk had misquoted me."

"Probably I think the prince or I have to refresh our French because I have never told him that I was optimistic or pessimistic.

"That is a word which is not in my dictionary when I deal with this kind of problem."

The question of French proficiency came up once again when Mr Perez de Cuellar was asked why he had not invited Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan to his meeting with the prince and Democratic Kampuchean Prime Minister Son Sann.

"I'm sorry. Again, my French is very poor because I think that it was the prince who very kindly asked to see me," the UN chief said.

He said that as secretary general it was his duty to receive the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea.

CSO: 4200/481

CAMBODIA

SIHANOUK CITED ON SRV 'TRICKS'

GK010127 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Feb 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] Democratic Kampuchea President Prince Norodom Sihanouk yesterday cautioned United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar of Vietnamese tricks underlying their show of good will during his trip to Hanoi.

Prince Sihanouk and coalition Prime Minister Son Sann outlined the "tricks" during a one-hour meeting with the UN chief at the seat of ESCAP.

He told the UN chief Vietnam wanted a rift within the coalition, to colonise his country and undermine ASEAN's diplomatic success at the United Nations.

After the talks, the Prince said Mr Perez de Cuellar had noticed good will on the part of the Vietnamese for a solution to the six-year problem.

The UN chief, he said, reiterated his optimism for Kampuchea although a solution was a long way off.

"He wished that I keep confidential what he told me during our meeting," Prince Sihanouk said, but "I will tell you what I told him."

The Prince said that according to the Vietnamese "Everything is negotiable" except the existence of the Khmer Rouge. "I told the secretary-general that the Vietnamese will use this as a pretext to occupy Kampuchea," he said.

When the Vietnamese say they will withdraw their troops in six to 10 years, "that means they want enough time to populate Kampuchea with millions of Vietnamese.

"There are now 600,000 Vietnamese taking our land, exploiting our national resources and forcing Kampucheans to flee so that Kampuchea is being underpopulated and more populated with Vietnamese," the Prince said.

He said the Vietnamese need time to stay in his country because after a few years they can get Kampuchean citizenship. "There will be in principle a Kampuchea but with millions of Vietnamese disguised as Kampuchean citizens.

"This is just a trick of Hanoi," he said.

He said he had turned down a meeting Vietnam had proposed between himself and Son Sann with Heng Samrin and Hun Sen as another trick.

"They want the international community and the UN to believe wrongly that since the Kampuchians are already seeing each other there is already a good beginning to a solution," Prince Sihanouk said.

If such a meeting took place the Vietnamese would, during the next session of the UN General Assembly, try to persuade many countries who voted for the UN resolution to abstain so as not to complicate the talks.

The proposal was also an attempt to split the coalition because if he and Son Sann agreed to such a meeting the Khmer Rouge would feel betrayed.

Speaking about the Vietnamese position of eliminating the Khmer Rouge from the coalition, the prince said:

"As far as liquidating the Khmer Rouge is concerned, I told the secretary-general that Vietnam has been trying for six years."

Vietnam had nearly 200,000 troops in Kampuchea but was incapable of liquidating the Pol Pot forces.

"How can Sihanouk and Son Sann liquidate them?" he said. "This is just a trick."

The Khmer Rouge were very successful inside Kampuchea against the Vietnamese and were attacking the invaders "in all provinces."

Prince Sihanouk said Son Sann told Mr Perez de Cuellar that from now on forces of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front would not mix with Khmer civilians along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

As a result of this year's Vietnamese dry-season offensive, he said, more troops would be broken up into smaller units to use guerrilla tactics deeper inside Kampuchea.

"Our civilians and military must be separated so the Vietnamese won't have a pretext to shell civilian bases."

Sihanoukist forces had been separated from civilians since last year, he said, and the non-communist forces were much bigger.

Prince Sihanouk said that during his one-month stay in Thailand he will hold a summit meeting with his coalition partners, ASEAN foreign ministers and receive credentials from ambassadors from various countries.

CSO: 4200/481

CAMBODIA

SRV ATTACKS, POSSIBLE SIHANOUK RELATIONS WITH PRK VIEWED

Paris MOUL KHMER in French Dec 84 pp 2-4

[Editorial by Moulkhmer: "Where Do We Stand?"]

[Text] The year which is ending will not have been at all encouraging for the Khmer people, still waiting vainly for liberation from the yoke of the North Vietnamese invaders. And that despite a record UN vote on 30 October on the annual resolution asking that these invaders finally withdraw from our territory. But it is well known that these United Nations resolutions have no effect whatever on the Hanoi leaders, who pay absolutely no attention to them, and so far as Cambodia is concerned, their policy consists basically of gaining time in order to achieve their objective of Vietnamization of the Khmer country while seeking at the same time to "break" the resistance definitively. Furthermore, that is why they launched their usual dry season offensive very early this year; it began 18 November and is currently going on, with the bases of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) near the Thai frontier as the principal objectives. Moreover, it is increasingly clear that one of Hanoi's aims is to destroy the principal nationalist component of the anti-Hanoi coalition government, so as to succeed next in destroying the coalition itself. Were these objective attained, Communist Vietnam would virtually have won since it then would be able quietly to pursue the integration of Cambodia into an "Indo-Chinese Federation" within which our people would end up by losing their national identity forever.

The dangers threatening us are therefore extremely serious, and the tortuous manoeuvres Prince Sihanouk has recently been engaging in will not avert them. In fact the President of the GCKD still cherishes the illusion of being able to dialogue with the Heng Samrin regime one day, and then, in a second step, directly with Hanoi. All that in order to mount a visionary four-party coalition, or if unable to achieve that, to come to an agreement by himself with the pro-Vietnamese regime of Phnom-Penh after having left the current tripartite coalition. It is apparently with this objective in mind that he just spent long weeks in the Paris region, during which he remained strangely silent. Besides, perhaps it was suggested to him to remain silent for once... But how can one seriously think that the Chinese and the Khmer Rouge would let him have his way and carry on his little private game by himself? The fact remains that by now he ought to have lost his illusions. There will be no quadripartite coalition, nor a bipartite one (Sihanouk-Heng Samrin), and the

Prince, like it or not, must remain in the tripartite coalition, at least for the time being. Very recently, too, he expressed bitterness while noting that he was not free to act according to his own wishes. But doesn't he know the French proverb which says "You need a long reach when you want to dine with the Devil"?

Quite obviously the princely "reach" was too short. Hence his complaints, after having met President Mitterrand on 17 December. The newspaper LE MONDE reflected this in its 19 December issue. The Prince declared that the Cambodian crisis has "reached an impasse" and the "opposition of the Khmer Rouge, supported by the Chinese" forced him, Norodom Sihanouk, "to abandon meeting with Mr Hun Sen, foreign minister of the Phnom Penh government, when the latter was in Paris recently" (still according to the account published by LE MONDE). However, in plain language, if the Prince had to abandon meeting Hun Sen, that quite obviously means that he was very anxious to meet him. That leads to the following question: why was he so anxious to meet him? Probably to reach an agreement with him behind the backs of his two partners in the current coalition, and without the knowledge of the Chinese. And what would that understanding have led to, if it had come about? Very likely to the Prince's going over to the Heng Samrin regime and to the Prince's return to Phnom Penh with the illusory prerogatives of chief of state. Hanoi would then have won on all counts. But Beijing and the Khmer Rouge were no doubt keeping an eye open for trouble and called a "halt" at the appropriate time. Thus Norodom Sihanouk once again finds himself empty-handed and certain of now being closely watched by those whom he thought he could dupe.

We shall shed no tears over this new setback for the Prince's personal "diplomacy". Instead, one might consider it a good thing, since it would have been disastrous for Cambodia if Sihanouk had succeeded in teaming up with the people from Phnom Penh and Hanoi--and they would have gotten rid of him as soon as he stopped being useful to them. That being said, what are the prospects that might now present themselves to the nationalist Khmers, at a time when a new year full of uncertainties is about to begin? One is forced to admit that at present these prospects are not very heartening. The dry season will be difficult, taking into consideration the fury the Vietnamese communists will unleash to neutralize the KPNLF resistance forces. On the other hand, there is a total impasse at the diplomatic level, and no negotiated solution in accordance with the aspirations of the Khmer people--neither Hanoi nor the Khmer Rouge--appears on the horizon of 1985. Because of that, must one then become totally discouraged? Certainly not, since only those who are discouraged must abandon all hope.

No doubt the resistance (nationalist, of course) must therefore consider reorganizing. At the highest levels, its current leaders have shown that they were not equal to the tasks. For one of them, because of his pathological mistrust of all those who were not members of his family entourage; for the other, because of his faults, a distinctive characteristic of his of which everyone is aware, and which always drives him to seek an understanding with those who best know how to flatter his extremely sensitive pride (and the Vietnamese communists are wonderfully familiar with that weakness.) Therefore perhaps these two leaders ought to "make way", or at least leave to better qualified subordinates the chance to assert themselves. Moreover, on the other

diplomatic side, it would be desirable for friendly countries to try to make the Chinese understand that the time has come to get the Hanoi leaders' backs to the wall, and to catch them in their own trap. In fact, the Hanoi leaders, as well as their creatures in Phnom Penh, endlessly repeat that there is no question of the North Vietnamese occupation forces' withdrawing from Cambodia so long as the risk remains of a return to power by the Khmer Rouge. Hence the best thing would be for Peking finally to drop the Khmer Rouge, and this would have the salutary effect of destroying once and for all the alibi Hanoi constantly uses to justify maintaining its invading army in our country.

Is that too much to hope? Time will tell. Meanwhile, the nationalists can do nothing better than to continue their resistance, while seeking at the same time to increase their effectiveness by an appropriate reorganization. Beginning with the obvious principle that Cambodia is not the creature of only one family or only one man, but the concern of all Cambodians, with the exception of the Khmer Rouge. Let us not forget, furthermore, that the Hanoi regime is not invulnerable. Therefore, why not try to combine our efforts better with those of the Vietnamese or Lao resistance, which is also combatting against this oppressive regime?

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CSO: 4219/24

CAMBODIA

CHEA SIM GREETES INDIAN SPEAKER ON NATIONAL DAY

BK301235 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1115 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Phnom Penh, 30 Jan (SPK)--Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, has sent a message of greetings to Bal Ram Jakhar, chairman of Lok Sabha (Lower House of India) on the 35th National Day of Indian (26 January).

The message highly values the all-sided achievements recorded by the Indian people since independence.

It expresses profound thanks to the Congress (I) party, the government and the people of India for their moral support and precious aid to the Kampuchean people in the cause of building their country and defending their revolutionary gains against the acts of aggression of the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists working hand in glove with the U.S. imperialists, and other forces of international reaction.

The message notes with satisfaction the development of the traditional friendship and cooperation between the two countries for the well-being of the two peoples and in the interests of peace and social progress.

CSO: 4200/481

17 February 1985

INDONESIA

SHORT CIRCUIT DETERMINED TO HAVE CAUSED JAVA PALACE FIRE

HK020838 Hong Kong AFP in English 0810 GMT 2 Feb 85

[Text] Jakarta, 2 Feb (AFP)--A short circuit in aging electrical equipment sparked the fire which gutted the Prince of Solo's palace in central Java on Thursday, a spokesman for the Solo police said today.

Police also said that the palace's fire extinguishers failed to work as the blaze destroyed 90 percent of the buildings as well as rugs, furniture and antique chandeliers. No casualties were reported.

The spokesman, Major Sukanto, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that workers managed to rescue the main works of art that had been kept in the 18th-century palace's museum or residential quarters.

Also saved were four orchestras of Indonesian gamelan, or instruments, jewels, porcelain, a major collection of daggers and sacred swords and the two carriages belonging to the Sunan, or prince, of Solo, he said.

Investigators said that electricity was installed in the palace's six buildings in 1917 and had started fires on several occasions, particularly in 1955, 1971, 1974 and 1981.

The electrical equipment, installed in the ceiling, was never changed, not even when the palace switched recently from 110 to 220 volts, they said.

Thursday's fire erupted in the ceiling and spread rapidly, whipped by a strong wind.

The cost of the damage was considerable, the prince's family said. "It will be more than a million dollars just to build the roofing," one member said.

The loss of the palace, seat of the oldest principality in central Java, is a serious loss for historians who had hoped to study certain archives which were burned.

Indonesians reacted with strong emotion to the palace fire, as they did to the bomb on 21 January which destroyed nine of the 72 stupas crowning the ancient Buddhist temple at Borobudur.

The destruction of the palace will force the cancellation of festivities on 17 February to mark the 240th anniversary of its transfer from Kartasura to Solo.

A historian also said that some supersititious Javanese will inevitably see it as a sign from heaven.

CSO: 4200/485

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

FIRE DAMAGES PALACE--Jakarta, 1 Feb (AFP)--A fire raged through the palace of the sunan or prince of Solo, central Java, last night, destroying half of the 18th century building, sources of the Armed Forces said here today. No injuries were reported, they said, adding that it was not clear what had caused the blaze. Early reports said that the fire raged for 5 hours before it was brought under control. The fire follows a 21 January bomb attack on the eighth century Buddhist temple of Borobudur, also in central Java, which damaged nine of the 72 stupas crowning the monument which is considered a national symbol. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0503 GMT 1 Feb 85]

JAPANESE TRADE DELEGATION--The Indonesian foreign minister, Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, stated that Japan, in the framework of trade relations with Southeast Asian countries, should pay due attention to the aspirations of the people of this region and not merely pursue profits. Speaking to the press after receiving delegates of the Japanese Economic Organizations Federation, Keidanren, the minister said that the aspiration should relate to the wish of the nations in Southeast Asia for the materialization of emancipation in economic relations with Japan. In this case, he continued, the Southeast Asian peoples are looking forward to Japanese sincerity in transferring technology, heeding the welfare of laborers and matters of joint capital. The Japanese entrepreneurs, he said, should not have the assumption that there is no sensitivity in economic relations. The minister meanwhile appreciated the step taken by Japan to cancel the visit of the chief of Japanese Parliament Foreign Affairs Commission, (?Sakurauchi), to Phnom Penh. This shows that Japan has become aware of the sensitivity of Southeast Asia, according to Minister Mokhtar. The Japanese Keidanren delegation arrived in Jakarta Friday for a 4-day visit. While in the country, they paid courtesy calls on President Suharto and several cabinet ministers. [Text] [Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 28 Jan 85]

CSO: 4200/473

LAOS

EXPERIENCES IN EVOLUTION OF PARTY

BK290627 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1100 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Feature article: "Some Major Experiences in Our Party in the Process of Evolution in Leading the Revolution"]

[Text] 1. Our party is unswervingly loyal to Marxism-Leninism, adheres to the principles of the working class, skillfully applies Marxism-Leninism to the practical conditions in our country, and appropriately and creatively puts forth the revolutionary line and methods of carrying out the revolution.

Respected listeners, our party was founded in the colonialist and feudal society. Most party members originate from farmers, laboring people, small capitalists, and patriotic intellectuals. Nevertheless, since its founding, our party has unswervingly adhered to the stand of being the party of the Lao working class. It has always followed working class principles. Adhering to these principles our party has, first and foremost, maintained a correct political line, always reflected the Marxist-Leninist attitude in its line and policy, and appropriately applied lessons from various fraternal parties to specific points of the Lao revolution. Our party's working class principles have also been shown through the concrete action that our party has always paid to educating and training cadres, party members, and people in Marxism-Leninism. It has guided the cadres, party members, and people to train and temper themselves in their hard, complicated, but honorable and glorious struggle.

2. Our party has always properly combined genuine patriotism with pure proletarian internationalism and combined the overall strength of the nation with the strength of the era. Our party is the political party of the Lao working class. It represents the genuine interests of the laboring people and of various tribes in Laos. It also joins in the contingent of the international communist-worker movement. The revolution in our country is part of the Indochinese and world revolutions. This is why our party has heartily served the people and the nation, taken responsibility in the cause of struggle to achieve victory for the revolution of our country, and contributed to the victories of the Indochinese and world revolutions. Our party has maintained no interests other than the interests of the nation and of the world revolution.

In fulfilling national and international obligations, our party has always provided education and training in a genuine patriotic spirit and pure spirit of proletarian internationalism for cadres and party members and has resolutely opposed all narrow-minded nationalism and selfish practices. Our party has always encouraged all forces of the working class and all people in the country to unite around the party and enhance the national strength in order to fulfill all revolutionary tasks in accordance with the revolutionary line it has adopted.

Our party's revolutionary line reflects its loyalty to the sacred interests of the nation and of the world revolution. With regard to the revolutions of Vietnam and Cambodia, the three Indochinese nations have together stood firm in the Indochina Peninsula, shared the same fate, and have enemies in common. The peoples of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia have united and assisted each other in carrying out the struggle on the basis of the spirit of sharing every grain of rice and every vegetable. The three Indochinese nations have formed special relations in their alliance group. The combat alliance between the Lao and Vietnamese revolutions is an all-round, firm alliance. It serves a pure and rare example. It has taken a significant role and maintained principled characteristics in the revolutionary cause of the two peoples. It also serves as a basic factor for the devaluation in each country.

3. Our party wholeheartedly serves the people. It has closely associated with the masses and skillfully promoted and expanded the great strength of the masses to fulfill the revolutionary tasks. The revolution is the cause of the masses. Without the masses' participation, the revolution cannot be successful. Since they have been educated and trained by our party, the laboring people of various tribes have come to clearly understand their great roles, maintained a profound spirit of patriotism, maintained close relations with the party, and followed the party's leadership to the end. This is the precious tradition of the Lao people of various tribes. It also considered a great success of our party in persuading and motivating the people to carry out the revolution.

4. Our party has properly and creatively applied Marxism-Leninism to the building of a new type of working class party.

Respected listeners, in the process of evolution in building the party, our party has paid attention to all three fields--political, ideological, and organizational--and has effectively coordinated the three fields. The building of the party is related to the masses' revolutionary movements. Our party has followed the principles of democratic centralism. It has stepped up building, purifying, and strengthening party committees and units at the grassroots level. It has managed, educated, trained, and tempered party members while building cadres, increasing the number of party members, accepting outstanding people to the party in order to increasingly enhance the strength of the party contingent, and maintaining the party's true revolutionary and scientific nature to deserve to be a new type of party of the Lao working class.

On the occasion of the 30th founding anniversary of the LPRP, we are elated at the process of revolution of the glorious and elegant revolutionary

struggle of the party, and are completely confident in our party's leadership. Therefore, let all our cadres and party members implement all lines and policies adopted by the party. This is the glorious honor and lofty responsible task of all cadres, party members, and people toward the noble party.

CSO: 4206/85

LAOS

INDIAN NATIONAL DAY MARKED

BK271153 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Vientiane, 27 Jan (KPL)--The daily PASASON today hailed the 35th anniversary of the Republic of India.

It says that since its founding in the past 35 years the Republic of India has scored great achievements in national economic development. In cooperation with the Soviet Union, the production in the fields of metallurgy and electricity has increased many folds comparing to 1950.

Touching on Indian politics a foreign policy of independence, peace and non-alignment has highly raised the prestige of India in the international arena. The Indian Government under the guidance of either the late Indira Gandhi or Rajiv Gandhi has received confidence and support from the entire Indian people and foreign countries as well, the paper underlines.

The paper further praises the firm solidarity of the Indian people thus foiling all subversive acts pursued by imperialism and reactionary forces.

Concerning Lao-Indian relations, the paper appraises the good friendly tie between the governments and peoples of Laos and India. India has provided Laos with technical and economic assistance. In particular, the Republic of India supports the just struggles of Lao, Vietnamese and Kampuchean peoples, and the proposal put forth by the three Indochinese countries for the settlement of regional problem aiming at turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation, the paper hails in conclusion.

CSO: 4200/480

LAOS

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN RECEIVES NEW MPR, GDR ENVOYS

BK300233 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] On the evening of 25 January, Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, received the courtesy call of Admaaguine Dshnyan, new MPR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos. On the same evening, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Kaysone Phomvihan also received the courtesy call of Dietrich Jarck, new GDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, after the latter had presented his credentials to the president of the LPDR.

At his separate meetings with the envoys of the two countries, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Kaysone Phomvihan hailed and wished the two dignitaries glorious success in carrying out their diplomatic missions, thus making important contributions to strengthening and developing incessantly the fraternal relations of friendship between the parties, governments, and peoples of Laos and Mongolia and between those of Laos and the GDR.

The conversations between the host and the guests were held in an atmosphere of intimate, friendly, and profound friendship and good will.

CSO: 4206/85

LAOS

BRIEFS

NEW MPR ENVOY RECEIVED--Vientiane, 29 Jan (KPL)--Sali Vongkhamsao, secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the State Planning Committee, received here yesterday Yadmaaguine Dshnyan, new ambassador of the Mongolian People's Republic to the Lao PDR. Vice-chairman Sali Vongkhamsao wished the Mongolian diplomat much success in implementing his mission here. The two sides also highly assessed the incessant development of fraternal relations between the parties, governments and peoples of Laos and Mongolia. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 29 Jan 85 BK]

SCHOOL DELEGATION LEAVES FOR HANOI--Vientiane, 29 Jan (KPL)--Chanmi Douangboudi, member of the LPRP CC, director of the higher party and government school, and his delegation left here yesterday to Hanoi. The Lao delegation is to attend a conference on scientific and practical work in the functioning of the party and government schools of the socialist countries. The conference is scheduled to be held in Hanoi. The charge d'affaires a.i. of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Laos was present at the airport here to see the delegation off. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 29 Jan 85 BK]

AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION LEAVES FOR VIETNAM--Vientiane, 29 Jan (KPL)--A delegation of Agricultural, Irrigational and Cooperatives Ministry led by its minister Inkong Mahavong, member of the EPRP CC, left here yesterday for a friendship visit to Vietnam. During its stay in Vietnam, a cooperation agreement in the fields of agricultural, irrigational and agricultural cooperative [as received] between the two countries is to be signed. Among those present at the Wattai Airport was Vu Tien, Vietnamese charge d'affaires a.i. to Laos. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 29 Jan 85 BK]

SOUPHANOUVONG RECEIVES BURMA ENVOY'S CREDENTIALS--Vientiane, 28 Jan (KPL)--U Aung Khin, the new ambassador to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, on 26 January, presented credentials to Souphanouvong, president of the republic, and of the People's Supreme Assembly. During the warm discussion with Burmese ambassador, President Souphanouvong wished him successes in his overall diplomatic mission so that the ambassador can contribute to the strengthening of the friendly relations between Laos and Burma. All attendance was Khamphai Boupha, first deputy-minister of foreign affairs. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0937 GMT 28 Jan 85 BK]

VONGKHAMSAO ATTENDS AUSTRALIAN DAY RECEPTION--Vientiane, 28 Jan (KPL)--John Bruce Campbell, the ambassador of Australia to Laos, and his wife, on the night of 26 January, held here a reception to mark the National Day of Australia (26 January). Among those taking part in the ceremony were Sali Vongkhamkao, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairman of the State Planning Committee; Maisouk Saisompheng, minister of industry, handicraft and forestry; Khamphai Boupha, first deputy-minister for foreign affairs; and other senior officials. Australian experts in Laos and diplomatic envoys along with representatives of the international organizations to Laos were also present at the function which proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere throughout. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0933 GMT 28 Jan 85 BK]

INDIAN NATIONAL DAY MARKED--Vientiane, 27 Jan (OANA-KPL)--An official function was organized here yesterday to wish the Indian experts working in Laos on the occasion of their 35th National Day (26 January). [sentence as received] Among those present at the ceremony were Nousai Sitthisai, deputy-minister of industry, handicraft and forestry and Shiv Kumar, the Indian ambassador to Laos. N. Sitthisai and Shiv Kumar, respectively addressed the gathering, highlighting the firm friendly relations and cooperation between Laos and India in the past as well as at the present time. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0858 GMT 27 Jan 85 BK]

UNESCO DELEGATION VISITS--Vientiane, 29 Jan (KPL)--Prof Bountiam Phitsamai, acting minister of education, who is also chairman of the National UNESCO Commission, on 28 January, received here a delegation of UNESCO Educational Planning Service led by its head Hans Reiff. During the discussion, Prof B. Phitsamai hailed the visit of the delegation which will strengthen cooperation between the Lao Educational Ministry and UNESCO. A discussion centered on the assessment of the past co-operation between the Lao Ministry of Education and UNESCO will be held by Mr Hans Reiff, including the mapping out of the 5-year co-operation plan. The UNESCO delegation is to stay in Laos eleven days. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 29 Jan 85 BK]

GDR OFFICIAL GREETES LPA ANNIVERSARY--Vientiane, 1 Feb (KPL)--Gen Khamtai Siphandon, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of defence, on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of the Lao People's Army (20 January), received a congratulatory message from Gen Hans Hoffmann, minister of defense of the GDR. The message hailed the growing strength and successes of the LPA in its tasks of national defence and building. The GDR minister also wished Gen Khamtai Siphandon good health and happiness. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 1 Feb 85 BK]

SOUPHANOUVONG GIVES CUBAN ENVOY CREDENTIALS--Vientiane, 28 Jan (OANA-KPL)--Southanouvong, president of the republic, of the People's Supreme Assembly, and of the Lao Front for National Construction, on 26 January, handed over credential letter to the new Lao Ambassador to Cuba Soukthavon Keola. The Lao president gave some personal advices to the new ambassador to Cuba in view to fulfill his mission of consolidating the fraternal friendship and the existing cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 28 Jan 85 BK]

VI-GNAKET ATTENDS PROPAGANDA WORK SEMINAR--Vientiane, 29 Jan (KPL)--A ten-day seminar on propaganda and training work under the chairmanship of Somlat Chanthamat, member of the party CC, head of the Propaganda and Training Board of the party CC, is being held here to review their last year's activities. The participants from various parts of the countries [as received] will also work out a new action plan for 1985 and studied some relevant political documents. Among those present at the opening ceremony was Saman Vi-gnaket, Secretariat member of the party CC, head of the Party Organizational Committee. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT 29 Jan 85 BK]

SAYABOURY POPULATION CENSUS CONFERENCE--On 6 January, the population census guidance committee of Sayaboury Province held its second conference on the population census with (Visian Bouathip), secretary of the provincial party committee, and 46 representatives from various services attending. The conference was in session for 15 days with the aim of formulating the second 5-year state plan's cultural and social objectives, carrying out the population census with a view to regulating and managing manpower and labor, and encouraging all the participants to attain basic knowledge of conducting a population census. [Summary] [Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 26 Jan 85 BK]

SAVANNAKHET POPULATION CENSUS CONFERENCE--A 7-day population census conference was recently concluded in Savannakhet Province. The conference was attended by Lieutenant Colonel Phosai, deputy secretary of the provincial party committee; (Heuang), member of the party committee and head of the population census guidance committee; and over 60 technical cadres. The conference studied the directive on the 1985 population census plan, questionnaire forms, and other population census documents. [Summary] [Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 23 Jan 85 BK]

VIENTIANE RICE PRODUCTION--In 1984, Vientiane Province managed to harvest 2.6 metric tons of paddy per hectare in the main rice season. The total rice production in this province in 1984 was 119,789 metric tons--an increase of 15 percent compared to 1983. The province also produced 1,800 metric tons of corn and 7,200 metric tons of tobacco and raised 69,500 water buffalo and 54,600 cows in the past year. The province set up 93 more agricultural co-operatives. The total acreage of the main season ricefields in the province is 24,771 hectares. [Summary] [Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1030 GMT 25 Jan 85 BK]

NAM NGUM HYDROELECTRIC PRODUCTION--A ceremony was held at Nam Ngum dam power plant in Vientiane Province on 18 January to review 1984 achievements. According to a report read by (Thoumphon Bouli-gnaphon), head of the plant, in the past year the hydroelectric plant has managed to produce over 89 million kilowatt-hours of electricity. [Summary] [Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 21 Jan 85 BK]

FOREIGN COUNTERPARTS GREET KHAMTAI SIPHANDON--LPDR National Defense Minister General Khamtai Siphandon recently received greetings messages from various

defense ministers of socialist countries on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of the founding of the LPA. The message included those from Gen Heinz Hoffmann, minister of National Defense of the GDR; Col Gen Istvan Olah, defense minister of the Hungarian People's Republic; Gen Raul Castro Ruz of the Republic of Cuba; Gen Florian Siwicki, minister of national defense of the Polish People's Republic; and Gen O Chin-u, minister of the People's Armed Forces of the DPRK. Each message conveys greetings, solidarity, and militant spirit to Lao revolutionary combatants and wishes the LPDR great success in its national construction cause and its international obligations and for successful socialist construction. [Text] [Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 29 Jan 85 BK]

CSO: 4206/85

NEW CALEDONIA

FRENCH ISLANDS TO FORM DEFENSE ALLIANCE

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 31 Dec 84 p 7

[Text]

Papeete

The local leaders of New Caledonia and French Polynesia, have agreed to form an interterritorial defence alliance because of their dissatisfaction with French security measures against separatist violence.

The head of New Caledonia territorial Government, Mr Dick Ukeiwe, and his French Polynesia (Tahiti) counterpart, Mr Gaston Flosse, announced in a joint statement "an alliance of French Pacific territories to defend their common interests and promote joint action in political, administrative, economic, cultural and social matters."

The alliance would be invoked "in cases of grave and imminent danger and if security forces did not intervene to effectively defend French laws protecting people and property."

Criminals

Mr Flosse has accused the French Government of responsibility for the separatist violence in New Caledonia, where more than 10 people have been killed.

He said the French Government had been seeking

to sell out New Caledonia for the past three years and had allowed common criminals to pass themselves off as the leaders of a political movement.

Mr Ukeiwe said the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front, which was demanding rapid independence from France, was a front organisation for foreign infiltration.

Isolated

The joint security measures involve grouping isolated families together for common defence and distributing radio transmitters to allow them to keep close contact with security posts.

Motorcycles and cars could be assigned to volunteers to keep in touch with threatened households in isolated areas.

Mr Ukeiwe agreed to allow French Polynesian authorities to set up a defence and security system in Noumea to defend the security of the Polynesian community in New Caledonia.

The leaders said that, after consultations with authorities on Wallis and Futuna Islands, the alliance could be broadened to include them.

NEW ZEALAND

MILITARY ANXIETY OVER ANZUS UNCERTAINTY REPORTED

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 28 Dec 84 p 1

[Text] Uncertainty about the future of New Zealand's role in the Anzus treaty is causing some officers in the armed services to wonder whether they still have worthwhile careers.

The armed services rely on the Anzus link between New Zealand, Australia and the United States for common exercises, intelligence and equipment.

But the future of that relationship is now in doubt because of the Government's policy of denying United States nuclear-powered or armed warships into New Zealand's ports.

The other partners to the treaty, particularly the United States, are reassessing its value in view of the closed port policy.

New Zealand career officers are also reassessing their future without the contact with their counterparts in the superpower's armed forces.

Recruitment officers are noticing a reluctance among young people who would make officer material.

It is understood there have not been as many applicants for other ranks this year for all the services, but an increase in job opportunities in civilian employment is the main reason for this.

Reluctance

There has been a reluctance among potential officers to join the Army.

"With Anzus under review, it is making them think," an Army spokesman said. "It may be reasonable for them to presume that defence isn't as high a priority with this Government."

This attitude has shown up especially among senior school-leavers.

"Secondary school pupils are pretty sharp--especially the seventh formers," the spokesman said. "They are far more aware of current issues than

varsity students, possibly because the varsity students are more involved with their studies."

In the year ending March 31, the Army has a target of 80 officer cadets, excluding specialists such as doctors, who do no formal training.

Those officers normally look to a 20-year career. But some are now pulling out early.

An officer said: "The number leaving the Army is alarming."

Another said: "I don't really blame them. If the armed forces aren't going to receive support from the Government, the career may no longer be there."

Experience

It is not the numbers which worry the services, but the loss of experience. "When someone resigns after 15 years, it is hard to replace that experience," a spokesman said.

Another spokesman said a rash of resignations improved career prospects: "It is the hot-headed ones who rush in with their resignations; the wise ones don't, and achieve more rapid promotion through the gaps."

In the Navy, it is the younger officer who is particularly disenchanted about the future.

Resignations from the Navy have increased since the change in Government according to a spokesman--"although it is not at the desperation point for us yet."

Pilots

He said the uncertainty was about the type of ships for the Navy in the coming years, and even not being wanted at the Waitangi Day celebrations next year.

The Air Force has not escaped the resignations either--but for a different reason: Air New Zealand has resumed recruitment of pilots.

Several pilots are leaving the Air Force in the next couple of months to join the airline. They get more flying and can stay in the air until a later age.

CSO: 4200/453

NEW ZEALAND

LANGE, QUEENSLAND PREMIER THREATEN TRADE WAR OVER N-POLICY

Formal Protest

BK270700 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] The New Zealand Government is to make a formal protest to Canberra over a move by the Queensland government to hinder New Zealand products entering the state. The premier of Queensland, Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, has said the decision by his government to ban a shipment of New Zealand chocolates could be seen as retaliation for the New Zealand Government's stand against nuclear warships.

The chocolates shipped by an Auckland manufacturer had been held up in Brisbane because the Queensland Health Department is enforcing a regulation requiring an imported food product to bear the importer's name and address. Sir Joh said he had warned there could be discrimination against New Zealand goods because of the country's ban on the entry of nuclear-powered or -armed ships to its ports. He said the chocolate ban could be seen in the light of that warning.

Sir Joh added if New Zealand did not want to be a fully committed party to the ANZUS defense treaty linking it with Australia and the United States, then it should renounce the treaty.

New Zealand's acting prime minister, Mr Geoffrey Palmer, said today that Sir Joh's action amounted to interference in Australia's foreign policy. He said the New Zealand Government would take the matter up through its usual channels with the Australian Government in connection with the Trans-Tasman Agreement on closer economic relations.

Meanwhile, the Queensland Council for Civil Liberties has attacked Sir Joh for bringing the legal system into disrepute. The president of the council, Mr (Ed Gorman), said an act of Parliament such as the Health Act could not be used for the totally unrelated purpose of international relations.

Lange Warns on 'Chocolate-Free State'

HK280536 Wellington Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] At his press conference today, Mr Lange warned that by declaring Queensland a chocolate-free state, the premier, Joh Bjelke-Petersen, has backed New Zealand into the beginnings of a trade war. The ban was in retaliation for New Zealand's nuclear ship ban, but Mr Lange said it's a war only Queensland can lose, because it imports \$59 million worth of goods but exports \$122 million worth to New Zealand. Mr Lange issued a clear threat to Queensland over its sugar, saying New Zealand is in the process of negotiating a long-term sugar agreement. He said the world market for sugar is over-supplied, and it would be easier and cheaper for New Zealand to buy its sugar elsewhere.

And an Australian federal government member of Parliament today also warned that Queensland's action could backfire and endanger the state's sugar trade with New Zealand. He said New Zealand could not retaliate with a trade war, leaving Queensland's sugarcane growers [words indistinct]. He said the domestic sugar industry is already on the ropes, and said [words indistinct] a silly attempt to strut the world stage.

The Queensland premier has had shipment of chocolate from Auckland impounded in retaliation for New Zealand's ban on nuclear ships.

Melbourne Summary

BK290932 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] There is a growing threat of a trade war between New Zealand and Queensland. New Zealand's minister for overseas trade, Mr Moore, has asked his department to provide him with a list of the various courses of action New Zealand could take if Queensland persists in banning New Zealand exports. The New Zealand move was announced today after a report that a consignment of its export beer had been impounded in Brisbane by the Queensland Health Department.

Late last week, Queensland Premier Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen said that Queensland had banned the consignment of New Zealand chocolates in what could be seen as retaliation for the New Zealand Government policy of banning port access to visiting nuclear warships.

The New Zealand overseas trade minister today described the impounding of the beer as juvenile and a clear breach of the spirit and honor of the Closer Economic Relations agreement between Australia and New Zealand. Mr Moore said that if it got to the stage where New Zealand exports were being unfairly treated in reality and not in rhetoric, then further action would need to be taken.

A New Zealand official from the Department of Trade and Industry today conceded that the dispute might affect current negotiations under way for future New Zealand sugar supplies. New Zealand Prime Minister Mr Lange yesterday warned Queensland that it would be easy for New Zealand to get its sugar elsewhere.

Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen responded today by threatening to take unspecified action against New Zealanders working in key positions in Queensland. Later, Sir Joh told newsmen he would start a campaign against New Zealand in the United States if the New Zealand Government went ahead with the trade war against Queensland.

CSO: 4200/469

NEW ZEALAND

PRIME MINISTER ON U.S. SHIP VISITS, DISARMAMENT VIEWS

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 13 Jan 85 p 5

[Interview by Jan Martinsson: "New Zealand Prime Minister in SVENSKA
DAGBLADET Interview: No Nuclear-Armed Ships from United States to Our Ports"]

[Text] Wellington--The moment of truth is approaching for New Zealand's new Prime Minister David Lange. The United States has promised that during January it will present the long awaited timetable for the naval vessels which with regard to the ANZUS pact will be ordered to call at New Zealand ports.

The first one is expected as early as February. But the new labor government is imposing two ultimatums, unacceptable to the United States: guarantees that no nuclear weapons are on board, and the ships also may not be nuclear-propelled.

This is an unprecedented challenge by a small ally. Half of the U. S. Pacific Fleet consists of nuclear-driven units. Furthermore, the type of armament on board is regarded as classified information and has never been divulged, despite the fact that allies such as Denmark and Japan formally "prohibit" nuclear weapons carriers in their ports.

With conditions such as these New Zealand is of little value as an ally, U. S. Foreign Secretary George B. Schultz said when he visited Wellington in September for the regular ANZUS ministerial meeting.

However, the decisive confrontation has been postponed time and again. In the meantime David Lange has somewhat softened the intensity of the portion of the double ultimatum that deals with the type of fuel. He now says that he could reexamine this demand if "complete safety can be assured for humans and environment."

Must Show His Hand

During the waiting which has characterized the last few months, the signs of the good will and efforts of the United States to retain the ties have been carefully noted here. In this peaceful agricultural society, where the sabre-rattling of the world is heard only in the distance, most matters are ultimately related to the export of beef and dairy products. It has therefore been viewed as a good sign that trade with the powerful allies Australia and

the United States is flourishing--despite Queensland's chief of government having threatened an embargo--and that the United States in November helped New Zealand obtain a major export order for mutton to Irak.

But the prime minister, who is only 42 and totally inexperienced in foreign policy, will soon be forced to show his hand. It was during this period of limited respite that David Lange received SVENSKA DAGBLADET in the "Beehive," the government building in Wellington which looks just like one.

He has the straightforward openness which is one of the essential virtues of this egalitarian society, where every politician must be able to pass for the neighbor's kid. But to that is added a verbal agility developed during his years as a lawyer. This skill was also one of the reasons why he became party leader in 1983 after quiet and soft-spoken Bill Rowling. At that time it was a matter of finding a counterweapon to the National Party's dangerous slugger Robert Muldoon. A struggle between the axe and the foil did indeed ensue.

Now he is playing a high game, in which the stakes are the country's security policy, the alliance with the United States and Australia.

[Question] The price for keeping the country completely clear of fissionable material is high. Is New Zealand prepared to sacrifice ANZUS?

[Answer] No, that is not our policy. We only maintain that the pact was formulated one-third of a century ago as joint protection, but that it was never intended to become a nuclear weapons alliance. We are free to determine the parameters according to which we enter a nuclear weapons engagement, which is what we have done. After that, it is our allies' business to take a stand on our continued participation. If they wish for us to leave the pact, it can only take place after a 12-month period of notice. From our side, however, we will not give notice to terminate the agreement. We also don't expect that they will exclude us.

This is a government which as late as October opened up territory for the "Triad" fleet maneuver. Thus, we are loyal allies and will continue to be so.

[Question] New Zealand imposes two requirements--no nuclear weapons on board, no nuclear power in the engine room. Are both parts non-negotiable?

[Answer] What has happened is that the people took a stand on the issue in a free election. Observe, that it was not we in Labour but the old administration which called an election in order to obtain a mandate for its position. They were thoroughly defeated, at a ratio of one to two. As for the main issue, the one about nuclear weapons, public opinion is unequivocal. In the second part, the one involving nuclear propulsion, the views are probably more evenly distributed in the population. To those who are opposed to allowing such ships into our ports, and among them is this administration, it is a matter of safety and environmental protection rather than of morals.

His replies are rapid and without hesitation, for during the last 6 months, since the election on 14 July, he has been forced to specify the labor government's double demand over and over again. An attempt at softening it was made when he explained in a radio interview on 8 October that the propulsion issue might be reexamined "in the event that guarantees and our own careful analyses show that no safety or environmental hazards are present." Concerning this, he now tells SVENSKA DAGBLADET:

"Actually, the problem is uninteresting. The reality is very simple: The United States has consistently followed a policy which says that it neither confirms nor denies the existence of nuclear weapons on board its ships or aircraft. If this is their policy, that is to say not to be able to furnish us with guarantees that they are not introducing nuclear weapons, well, then question number two will never have to be reexamined."

But behind the tough attitude constant probing is under way for the formula which might satisfy both the United States and domestic opinion. To that end Defense Minister Frank O'Flynn made a trip to a number of other countries allied with the West. Particular interest has been attached to Denmark and Japan. Both countries have declared their ports closed to nuclear-armed ships, but without going so far as to extract any guarantees or promises from the United States. Instead, it is assumed that the major power respects this desire.

The antinuclear and later the peace movement is strong in New Zealand. In order properly to understand today's conflict, it is necessary to look at the history. David Lange himself provides this background:

"The basis is our attitude toward nuclear weapons. We have never participated in the establishment of any nuclear weapons and therefore do not wish to make any decisions which imply a risk that we could be involved in one. During the decades after the war the British, U. S. and French all used Polynesia as a testing area. The French are the only ones still continuing, and the test explosions on Mururoa have been of major significance in creating today's opinion."

"The other basis is that we have no history of peaceful nuclear power. This is a country with a surplus of renewable energy sources (thermal energy and hydroelectric power)."

The Core of the Peace Movement

The core of the peace movement is within Labour, and this group represents the view that New Zealand should completely cut its ties with Australia and the United States. This isolationist attitude might seem strange in a country which historically has been one of the most faithful friends of the United States and England. Most recently, it even allowed one of its frigates to undertake patrol duty during the Falkland crisis.

True, the prime minister is not tied to his party's opinion on various issues, as in Sweden. But the whole matter is nevertheless disturbing. This is why David Lange is careful to point out that the program with which the party entered the election has not been changed:

"It only says that we should strive for a redistribution of that part of the ANZUS pact which is unclear on the point of nuclear weapons. There are no broadly anchored demands for this type of disarmed neutrality in New Zealand. There is, indeed, a very small group which strongly advocates this position. But it is not--in order to express a serious matter cynically--of any political consequence."

[Question] What is happening here now--could it be viewed in a wider perspective? That New Zealand is prepared to play an international role as a pioneer by proving that small nations can refuse to host nuclear weapons?

[Answer] No. On the contrary, we are very careful not to appear as advocates of that position. It is a fundamental issue for us, and our critics may well regard this as a national romantic attitude. It is not even possible to export it to Australia. Its government has a standpoint which can roughly be categorized as the opposite, and which is supported by the population there.

11949
CSO: 3650/145

NEW ZEALAND

EDITORIAL ON JAPAN WAR PLAN, ROLE OF U.S.

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 28 Dec 84 p 12

[Editorial]

[Text]

Details of the joint United States-Japan war plan have not been announced, but studies for joint operations between the Self-Defence Forces and the United States Forces have been made known and the most likely content of the war plan is that it is the outcome of these studies. The war plan is therefore not likely to contain any basic policy matters about Japan's attitudes to defence, or about whether the United States has persuaded Japan to take any particular defence initiatives. It will simply be a set of plans to be put into action if Japan is attacked. It is closer to a manual of instruction and co-operation rather than a change of attitudes or practices.

The present attitudes towards defence in Japan include the view that Japan will engage only in defence. Its Constitution prohibits military aid to other countries, the sending abroad of military forces, and the export of weapons. Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution renounces war, says that a potential for war will not be maintained in Japan, and rejects any supposed right of belligerency. Japan also adheres to the principles of not possessing nuclear weapons, of not making nuclear weapons, and of not introducing nuclear weapons to Japan. According to a principle first put forward in 1975, Japan restrains its defence spending to not more than 1 per cent of gross national product. None of this, however, denies Japan a right to self-defence and the Government takes the view that the Constitution does not forbid the maintenance of minimum military strength, sufficient for self-defence. Co-operation with the United States, from Japan's point of view at least, is conducted within the basic views of a self-defence posture. It has been long accepted by

Japan that, if Japan were attacked, the attacker would come into direct confrontation with the United States military forces stationed in Japan. The new war plan seems merely to be about procedures to be followed under such circumstances. In 1978, the United States and Japan agreed on some basic principles for co-operation. The new plan sounds as if it is an implementation of that understanding, and is fairly called a strategy plan.

The plan has been signed at a time in which defence is being given more emphasis in Japan. This is largely because of the views of the present Prime Minister, Mr Nakasone, as well as the pressure that has been put on Japan by the United States to increase its defence spending and to take a higher profile in defence, just as the United States has been putting pressure on West European allies. The Americans have been arguing that Japan should take responsibility for the defence of its sea lanes 1000 miles from Japan. This has caused some concern in South-East Asia, where there is a general reluctance to see a Japanese military presence again.

The Japanese are well aware of the sensitivity of the South-East Asians to the subject and have not been willing to undertake the role that the Americans would like. The Japanese are not ready to break the 1 per cent of G.N.P. ceiling on their defence spending. After some speculation early last month that Mr Nakasone was going to break this guideline, he made a statement at the end of the month saying that his Government would adhere to the established policy of limiting the spending to 1 per cent. The limitation seems certain to remain in the 1985 fiscal year at least.

The Japanese economy is huge, and limiting defence spending to 1 per cent of G.N.P. still means that Japan has the eighth largest military force in the world. Because of the growth in the Japanese economy, defence spending has grown markedly. Economic growth of 6 per cent or more has been predicted for the next year. Given the high cost of military equipment and the increased pay for servicemen, the extra expenses should be accommodated if Japan's economy grows at the predicted rate. Nevertheless, the idea of exceeding the 1 per cent guideline has been floated and this may be passed eventually. Mr Nakasone has demonstrated time and time again that his own views are stronger than those of the public at large on this issue. His personal standing may help determine how quickly Japan will decide to exceed the guideline. After all, the change will be in principle, not in the Constitution.

Since the shooting down of a Korean airliner in 1983, Japan has appeared somewhat bolder in world affairs. When a Soviet military aircraft shot down the airliner, Japan made a great deal of information available. This was at some cost to Japan, because it disclosed just how much information Japanese monitoring stations, and American monitoring stations on Japanese soil, could learn about Soviet military movements. As a result, the Soviet Union changed a number of the codes that it used. For most of the time since the Second World War, Japan has been cautious in world political affairs. It has usually waited to see how the United States and other Western countries

reacted to a situation before being prepared to commit itself. Japan has become less reticent.

Japanese relations with the Soviet Union have been bedevilled by a territorial dispute over four islands known to Japan as the Northern Territories. The Soviet Union refuses to discuss the islands and Japan and the Soviet Union have hitherto not signed a peace treaty after the war because of this territorial dispute. There is some evidence to suggest that Japan wants the dispute made an international issue. A Japanese group that visited the United States recently got an undertaking there that, from now on, official American maps would show the islands as Japanese territory.

One of the unfortunate aspects of the higher profile that Japan is taking in international affairs is that it appears to endorse American views of the East-West confrontation. Japan has long had considerable experience in dealing with the Soviet Union. It is a pity that it does not bring its own insight more to the fore than simply to echo American views. Japan's sense of affairs could be useful to the United States, too. The relationship between President Ronald Reagan and Mr Nakasone has been good. When they meet in the first few days of 1985, they will both come to the meeting strengthened by recent elections — President Reagan having been returned to the White House, and Mr Nakasone having been re-elected to the presidency of the Liberal Democratic Party, which carries with it the Prime Ministership. The new war plan, while not altering the basic relationship, will strengthen their ties still further.

CSO: 4200/453

NEW ZEALAND

LANGE CITES 1985 PRESSURES IN NEW YEARS MESSAGE

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 31 Dec 85 p 22

[Text]

The Prime Minister, Mr Lange, has issued a New Year message to New Zealanders wishing them all peace and prosperity in 1985.

Mr Lange said it was a good time to make resolutions outside the daily pressure of work.

"New Zealand will face several pressures in the coming year. Initially there is the problem of agricultural protectionism which overburdens the rich nations with food while the poor countries starve.

"But it's time to be glad about the resilience of our own producers who are changing their production patterns to meet new market demands. It's a time to be proud of our rich landscape. We have much to show our visitors."

Mr Lange said the coming year would put to a test what New Zealanders kept on saying about race relations.

He said 1985 would see the new system of wage fixing put to the test. Responsible employer and employee organisations would have to bargain within the limits of what the economy could stand.

And politically, Mr Lange said, it was going to be an exciting year with the prospect of two budgets being presented in 1985.

"The New Year presents new challenges. But it also presents great opportunities for this country. We have made substantial recovery already.

"The real test of what can be achieved in 1985 will be when more people are in jobs, when more people are properly housed and educated and New Zealand is confirmed as a nuclear-free-zone, with this country playing a leading role in promoting peace."

CSO: 4200/453

NEW ZEALAND

NECESSITY FOR SHANGHAI TRADE POST ANALYZED

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 31 Dec 84 p 8

[Article by Bruce Kohn]

[Text] The establishment of a New Zealand trade post in Shanghai is becoming necessary as the Sino-New Zealand relationship enters a fresh phase of development.

Businessmen who toured China with the Minister of Overseas Trade, Mr Moore, said following the 10-day mission that the opening of such a post would do much to boost two-way trade currently running at about \$230 million annually.

Shanghai is identified by them as the logical place for a second New Zealand official representative office because of its burgeoning role in China's modernisation programme.

Traditionally, Shanghai, on China's east coast, has been the country's major commerce and industrial centre. In recent years its civic authorities have lamented a lack of central government drive to develop it at a pace similar to that evident in Canton and Peking.

But there is evidence now to suggest that under the decentralisation of decision-making programme implemented by the central government, Shanghai will soon return to its position as China's most significant gateway for international traders.

Local city authorities have plans to develop port handling capacity from an existing annual tonnage of 89.76 million tonnes to 180 million tonnes a year by the year 2000.

Wharf

Regular container services now run to Australia, the US, Japan and Hong Kong and construction of a 351,999 square-metre computerised container wharf is planned. When completed it is to be capable of handling 200,000 containers a year.

Heavily industrialised, the city has a population of 12 million. Plans are now being made to relocate heavy industry to outlying districts and to concentrate on the development of high technology industries in central city areas.

More than 400,000 overseas tourists visited the city last year. Under civic plans it is intended to double the present number of 4000 hotel beds within the next three years.

The city lies in the Changjiang Delta economic region, taking in the major cities of Suzhou, Wuxi, Changzhou, Nantong, Hangzhou, Jiaxing, Fuzhou and Ningbo. It has been given special priority for economic development. The potential for foreign involvement is rated highly.

Veteran New Zealand/China traders believe that as a centre for future business development between the two countries, Shanghai offers more scope, as a base of operations, than other cities.

Canton and the special economic zone which lies between it

and Hong Kong can be covered adequately by businessmen travelling in from Hong Kong, they say. It is also important to recognise, they say, that the Hong Kong Cantonese regard the southern Chinese regions as natural areas of operation for their business activities.

The north and north western regions of China can be adequately serviced by New Zealand representatives in Peking, they say. But the eastern area covering Jiangsu, Anwei and Zhejiang provinces could be better covered from Shanghai.

Intelligence

The post, if established there, should be regarded primarily as one set up for market intelligence gathering and arranging appointments and schedules for visiting traders from New Zealand, in their view.

They said that by fulfilling these functions, such a post would act to stimulate two-way trade, provide invaluable assistance to businessmen through saving time which would have to be devoted to local market research and cement good relations forged with local authorities.

Australia already maintains a special trade post in the city.

CSO: 4200/453

NEW ZEALAND

WOOL SURGES BACK INTO TOP EXPORT SLOT

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 28 Dec 84 p 4

[Article by Peter Freeth]

[Text]

New Zealand continues to ride on the sheep's back as wool surges again into a top slot as an export money spinner.

The outlook for lamb, mutton, beef and dairy products may be cloudy in the face of inroads from chicken and large European and American product surpluses.

But wool from a national flock of about 70 million is selling briskly on a buoyant market and, for the country and the sheepfarmer, helping to offset other trends.

With a price rise on average of 28.5 per cent during the first six months of the selling season — and a 5.7 per cent rise in the volume of wool sold at auction — a new record is in sight for the national wool cheque.

Earn More

Wool earned about \$1.2 billion for New Zealand during 1983-84, topping the billion mark for the first time.

This season, with the greater weight of wool yet to come before the final auction in June, it seems set to earn much more unless there is an unexpected market collapse.

On broad estimates so far, wool has brought in about \$476 million, compared with about \$350

million to this stage last season.

The 20 per cent July devaluation and the bigger volume have made the most significant differences to the return but, beyond that, wool exporters and the Wool Board discern a market lift from an improved world demand for the natural fibre.

The average auction price for greasy wool to the end of December was 382.5c a kilogram, compared with 297.6c for the first six months last season.

The new level is 62.5c a kilogram above the Government-guaranteed minimum of 320c, which means that the taxpayer is now free from the burden of wool subsidy support.

And, despite the cancellations of two offerings of Auckland wool because of a strike by store workers at the giant Wiri wool centre, the volume of wool sold at auction totalled 738,000 bales, compared with 698,000 bales to this stage last season.

Such has been the demand since the start of the season that the Wool Board has been able to feed

more stockpiled wool back into the market.

The stockpile now stands at a negligible 38,500 bales, compared with 92,500 bales at the close of the 1983-84 season.

Prices since the new season began have fluctuated only moderately, peaking at an average of 386c a kilogram for greasy wools at Dunedin on November 22 and remaining fairly steady in the 370s during December.

Adding Value

Iran, a good customer for New Zealand wools in earlier seasons, has been conspicuously absent from the list of buying countries but Britain, Western Europe and Japan are reported by exporters to have increased their purchases.

And now, with China, Russia and other parts of Eastern Europe all well into the market, the wool industry has good grounds for optimism.

In line with trends of the past two years, New Zealand merchant scouring companies and wool manufacturers have been buying heavily and adding value to a large proportion of the clip before shipment.

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

REPRESENTATIVE TO QUEENSLAND UPGRADED--New Zealand has upgraded its diplomatic and trade representation in Australia. The status of New Zealand representative in Queensland has been raised to a consul general, and the government is also considering opening a consulate in South Australia. The new consul general in Queensland is Mr (Jeremy Spaniard). He said New Zealand was particularly interested in increasing its exports of manufactured goods to Australia and also in gaining access and approval for New Zealand to tender for government projects in Australia. Mr (Spaniard) said trade between the two countries had increased greatly in the past 12 months. He said Australia's trade to New Zealand had increased by 23 percent, and exports from New Zealand to Australia had increased by 32 percent. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 24 Jan 85]

OPPOSITION LEADER ON SHIP BAN--The Leader of the Opposition, Mr McLay, says neither New Zealand nor the United States appears to have room to compromise on the issue of nuclear warship visits. Mr McLay, who is holidaying in Hawaii, visited the American Pacific forces base at Pearl Harbour on Saturday and spoke to several senior military men. He said there was critical concern over the New Zealand Government's policy of forbidding visits by nuclear warships. The Americans were not likely to change their stance of refusing to confirm or deny whether a ship was nuclear-armed. Mr McLay said recent statements by the Prime Minister, Mr Lange, indicated that the Government might allow one or two visits by warships which were unlikely to carry nuclear weapons. "But that will be nothing more than a temporary compromise. The Americans regard port access as being an essential part of the Anzus Treaty arrangements." [Text] [Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 31 Dec 84 p 3]

CSO: 4200/453

PHILIPPINES

COMPLICATIONS OF OPPOSITION CANDIDATE SELECTION ANALYZED

Laurel, Convenors vs. Imelda

Makati MR.&MS. in English 4-10 Jan 85 pp 27-30

[Article by Belinda Olivares Cunanan: "Two Candidates Too Many in a Fast-Track System"]

[Text]

THE New Year opens with the prospect of having two presidential tickets staring the Opposition in the face, as talks persist that the President might step down in mid-year or sooner (as rumors persist he's leaving this week for abroad) and call for a special election where he will field Imelda R. Marcos as the KBL presidential candidate.

Last Sunday, Dec. 30., UNIDO President Salvador H. Laurel presided over a party meeting of the UNIDO council of leaders and regional vice-presidents which called for a national conference of "core leaders" next month, to decide on the process of selecting the presidential and regional candidates.

But though the UNIDO for sure will stage some kind of a political convention, it is generally conceded in UNIDO circles that Laurel will be the party's standard bearer. The thinking being pushed by the Laurels is that Doy has been waiting for this chance since 1981,

when he opted to boycott the presidential election instead of fighting Marcos as people thought he would do. Moreover, they reason out, Doy is merely out to collect "debts of gratitude". Last May, 1984 he campaigned in over 70 provinces for assemblymen, 59 of whom won.

In fact, if one listens to UNIDO people, it appears to be merely the question of who would be fielded as vice-president that is being decided. Speculations are rife that the vice-presidential candidate would be Liberal Party President and Manila topnotcher, MP Eva Estrada Kalaw, thus insuring the political marriage of the two oldest parties in the country, the Liberal

and the Nacionalista Parties. This tandem, however, would be in defiance of the traditional North-South geographic distribution of candidates. Besides, Eva Kalaw is said to be not as interested in running for the first or second post, as she is in solidifying her party after the recent trauma of a split.

If the North-South tandem is to be respected, observers think the ticket would be much stronger if the vice-president could be either Aquilino Pimentel, national chairman of the PDP-LABAN, or MP Ramon Mitra of Palawan, also a PDP-LABAN stalwart. Either one of these two people would "cinch" Doy Laurel's dream of becoming president, it is said.

The whole trouble with this concept, however, is that both Pimentel and Mitra are among the nine potential standard bearers of the Convenor Group. This group has recently drawn up what has come to be controversially known as the "fast track system" of selecting a presidential team in the event that the presidency is suddenly vacated.

Volatile Situation

At its latest meeting last Wednesday, Jan. 2, at Cory Aquino's Times St. residence, the Convenor Group and the nine potential presidential candidates ratified the fast-track method of selection, but shortened the term of agreement of the signatories to three months, renewable for another three months. The thinking that predominates is that because anything can really happen in the present highly volatile political situation, a shorter term leaves more room for flexibility.

In addition to Pimentel and Mitra, the other potential standard bearers who signed a "Declaration of Unity" last Dec. 26 at Cory's residence, include Butz Aquino, Jose Diokno, Teofisto Guingona, Raul Manglapus, Ambrosio Padilla, Rafael Salas and Jovito Salonga. Originally also nominated were Eva Estrada Kalaw and Salvador Laurel, both of whom have since bolted from the

group because they felt that the fast track system is "highly undemocratic". Both political leaders have batted for a convention instead.

Granting that Mitra and Pimentel may be willing to accept a vice-presidential draft with Doy Laurel, there is still the question of how to reconcile basic differences between PDP-LABAN and UNIDO, particularly over the issue of the U.S. bases. PDP takes a hard-line stand on the withdrawal of the bases within a definite period of time, whereas Doy Laurel has recently stated that he would rather submit this sensitive issue to the judgment of the people in a plebiscite. This "tactic" is interpreted by nationalists as Doy's way of playing the middle-roading game with the Americans in an effort to win their support for his presidential bid.

The view from the UNIDO, however, is that the Convenor Group, composed of Cory Aquino, former Sen. Lorenzo Tanada and business executive Jaime V. Ongpin, is bent on fielding its own set of candidates for the presidential election. Speculation is rife on whom. Many think it will be a Diokno-Pimentel or Diokno-Butz Aquino or a Diokno-Mitra ticket because the reasoning goes, Cory and Tanada are both close to Diokno (Cory because of Diokno's longtime association with Ninoy, and Tanada because of Diokno's nationalist stance which is similar to his own).

At an impromptu press conference at Cory's house last Wednesday, Diokno was asked if he was interested to be president, and he replied that his interest was as sharp as a "dulled razor blade". But people who

know Diokno attest that he would like to be president. Few would question the man's preparedness and qualifications, conceding that he is one of the most brilliant minds around; but his health remains a big question mark, although he appears to have fully recovered from a bout with cancer last October.

Jesuit-Trained

The presence of Jesuit planners among the "facilitators" such as Ateneo President Joaquin Bernas and Jesuit provincial Bienvenido Nebres, as well as the dominance of Jesuit-trained or influenced elements among the facilitators and Convenors, such as Ongpin, Alran Bengzon and Emanuel Soriano, has also led people to speculate that the Convenor Group is out to provide a convenient launching pad for the candidacy of the much-persecuted Aquilino Pimentel, who is a Jesuit product through and through. This speculation was first brought up by Pimentel's archrival, MP Homobono Adaza.

In fact speculation is also rife about a Pimentel-Butz Aquino tandem, which is conceded to be quite strong. With the bolting of Laurel and Kalaw, PDP-LABAN remains the only major political party within the Convenor Group, with the exception of the Salonga faction of the LP which is not credited with enough muscle to pull its own act. There are four PDP-LABAN members in the Convenor Group: Pimentel, Mitra, Guingona and Manglapus.

Though PDP-LABAN is conceded to be the fastest-growing political party today (at any given week, says chairman Pimentel, at least 10 seminars are going on in Metro Manila alone), just how large it has grown is subject to

speculation. UNIDO feels that PDP's strength is overestimated or bloated. Pimentel says his party has been planning to field its own candidates for the presidential election all along, and the inclusion of his name and three other members in the Convenors' list may have firmed up this party plan, what with the drawing power of the parliamentarians of the street added to the party's strength.

But more than talk of a Pimentel candidacy, speculation is bruited about that the Convenor Group was really designed to launch the candidacy of Ninoy's widow, Cory, in an attempt to wrest for the Aquino family what should have belonged to it had there been a presidential election back in 1973. Cory denies presidential ambitions whenever the opportunity arises, but more and more people are speculating that she may be the only candidate who could unite the Opposition.

The question is, Doy Laurel appears quite unstoppable in his ambition. Should Cory run together with Nene Pimentel or Monching Mitra as running mate, this would really "spell disaster", said one UNIDO man, for this would really divide the Opposition all the way down.

Despite her refusal to consider herself in the running, Cory's draft may appear inevitable, particularly in the light of persistent talk that the President might step down for reasons of health and call

a special election where he would field Imelda Marcos as candidate for president. Speculation centers on an Imelda-Juan Ponce Enrile or Imelda-Blas Ople ticket. Either way, it is said, this KBL ticket will be powerful and it has been submitted that only the undiminished

popularity of Ninoy's widow, together with Pimentel or Mitra as vice-president, could stop the KBL ticket.

Two Tickets

So the prospects of having two Opposition presidential tickets loom large in the event of a sudden emergency in the presidency. It is a prospect that is enough to wreck any Opposition sympathizer's New Year hopes, for a divided Opposition in this coming presidential election will surely weaken chances of wresting power from the KBL.

Ranking Opposition leaders are only too aware of this fact, hence all efforts are being exerted by all sides to talk to the key participants in the coming election drama. UNIDO leaders are reiterating their invitation to Cory to head the National Unification Committee (NUC), which was spearheaded by UNIDO assemblymen last August. Under this unification plan, the dominant Opposition or core of dominant Opposition in each province will be identified, and its decision to field local candidates will be upheld. Although this move started as a coalesced Opposition plan, it is fast shaping up as an instrument to further UNIDO's strength, inasmuch as its main proponents are UNIDO key leaders in the Batasan. This may be the reason why Nene Pimentel and Peping Cojuangco of PDP-LABAN have withheld their signatures to the document forming it.

Cory has refused participation in the NUC for the moment because she felt that "we ought to complete the work already started", that is, to evolve the fast track system. But the UNIDO people are hopeful that she would still work with the NUC. MP Ramon Mitra, at the Convenors' meeting last Wednesday

said he thought the group should endorse Cory's acceptance of the chairmanship of NUC, but the group failed to act on it that meeting.

UNIDO people, in fact, are frankly hoping that the Convenor Group and its candidates will work with other Opposition groups, for they feel this is the only way to go about unifying the Opposition. In addition to negotiations with Cory regarding the NUC, certain key Batasan assemblymen have talked to Nene Pimentel and Monching Mitra regarding possible alignments. But all this time the position of Doy Laurel appears clear: he will not budge from the presidency bid.

UNIDO leaders argue that the 59 Opposition assemblymen represent 36 of the 93 constituencies in the country, and some 56.4% of the total registered voters. In addition, UNIDO claims that its party machinery is in place nationwide because of its participation last election. Moreover, since UNIDO fielded candidates all over the country last election, it is this party that will get the dominant party status in the next presidential election. Thus it will avail of inspectors, which other parties will not have.

And above all, UNIDO people argue, the coming presidential election will require tremendous logistics, conservatively estimated by some circles to run to at least half a billion pesos. Only a party of UNIDO's magnitude, they claim, can raise such an amount.

Cold-Blooded Statistics

In the face of UNIDO's cold-blooded statistics on what it takes to win a presidential election, the Convenor Group may appear too idealistic and up in the clouds, running mostly on the steam of good intentions. For one thing,

there are only two active politicians in this group (Pimentel and Mitra) with constituencies of their own; the rest are active street parliamentarians (Butz, Guingona and Diokno), one technocrat who has been on self-exile for a long while (Salas) and four ex-politicians who last held public office at the outset of martial law (Salonga, Manglapus, Padilla and Diokno). In addition, a number of these potentials face legal or administrative cases as well as disqualification arising from failure to register and vote, lack of residence, and immigrant or exile status.

Admittedly both active politicians are very popular. Ramon Mitra placed second only to Ninoy in Metro Manila when he ran under the LABAN banner in 1978; both Nene and Monching are popular leaders in Mindanao, and their Batasan record has been outstanding. The street parliamentarians, on the other hand, are guaranteed crowd-drawers; Diokno, particularly, is very mesmerizing on stage. The combined force of Butz and Cory Aquino campaigning will definitely be very formidable, and of course, the eminence of Lorenzo Tanada as Grand Old Man of the Opposition cannot be disputed.

Should the Convenor Group stick together and decide to indeed field a ticket in the presidential election, many people think it will be very effective in marshalling people power, particularly among the cause-oriented and sectoral groups which have been left out by the traditional political parties. While it is true that only two of the nine potentials have political constituencies, yet, as one potential candidate, Teofisto Guingona, former Constitutional Convention

delegate, pointed out, most of the nine have their own "cause constituencies" that go against ordinary geographical barriers.

In fact, argues another potential candidate of the Convenors, many Batasan Opposition won, not because of their record or party, but because of the protest vote of the people. It is this same protest vote against the Marcos regime that the Convenor Group hopes to marshal for its own candidates. Lawyer Ramon Tagle, who represents potential candidate Raul Manglapus, thinks that a "bandwagon effect" will work among the people, particularly if it is a popular candidate who runs.

Political Machinery

Incumbent Opposition assemblymen identified with UNIDO dispute the total effectivity of people power and the "irrelevance" of the political machinery in today's politics. It may be true in such urban areas as Metro Manila, but in the rural areas, it is still the political machinery that will matter, that will deliver the votes at precinct level, they maintain. At her press conference last Dec. 22 at Philippine Columbian Club, LP President Eva Kalaw maintained that it is still the "delivery system of the party groups" that will win the election for president.

"Granting that the cause-oriented groups may be able to mobilize a core of say, 30,000 in the urban areas," says an UNIDO MP, "Will this be enough to make the Convenor candidate win?" Besides, he added, it is common knowledge that the cause-oriented groups are divided in their allegiance even to well-known personalities like Diokno and Tanada.

With the limelight focusing no longer on what will happen but on who will be fielded in the coming presidential election, the leading contenders are now being scrutinized necessarily by the people. Doy Laurel's record as an Opposition, for instance, will be sifted and the fact that he ran under the KBL banner in 1978, bolting it only in 1980, will constantly come under fire. If the KBL record of former Cabinet members like Francisco Tatad and Luis Villafuerte is being held against them in considering them as presidential material, why should Laurel also not be questioned, people ask.

Despite a winning personality and tremendous charisma, Laurel will therefore be suspect, rightly or wrongly, to a proneness to negotiate with the Marcoses; and the longstanding ties between the Laurel and Marcos families which date back to Marcos' first debt of gratitude (one of several) to Justice and later President Jose P. Laurel, Doy's father, for exonerating him from the Nalundasan murder charge, will not help dispel this nagging doubt.

In addition, many people in the urban centers have not forgiven Doy Laurel and Eva Kalaw for "reneging" on their pledge, signed with other Opposition leaders last January, to boycott the May elections if Marcos failed to meet certain demands. The Kalaw and Laurel camps claim that their leaders were tricked by other Opposition leaders into readily signing the "Call for Meaningful Elections" by assuring them that they would have the option to boycott or participate later. It is the other leaders, they claim, who "renege" on their promise.

On the other hand, Cory Aquino has rightly said that once she announces her candidacy "people will gang up on me". A Batasan assemblyman points out that resistance points to Cory will be raised once her candidacy is launched. They will come from people against whom she campaigned by endorsing other candidates, such as MPs Wilson Gamboa of Negros Occidental, Arthur Defensor of Iloilo, Francisco Tatad in Quezon City, and Homobono Adaza of Misamis Oriental. Also from people who are against Butz Aquino because he worked against their interest last election when he advocated boycott and who will be against Cory too, by extension. Among them are Orly Mercado and Cecilia Munoz Palma. Then there are the partisan elements who are outrightly for other candidates, such as Laurel, Kalaw, Pimentel, etc.

Nene Pimentel to-date has to fully exonerate himself from the petty charges of graft and corruption levelled against him by some councilors in Cagayan de Oro. Of some 22 charges, says Pimentel, only two or three are still pending; the rest have been dropped by the local courts. But despite this, Nene does not expect his political enemies to give him rest from these charges; in addition, his disqualification is still pending before the Supreme Court.

Ramon Mitra, on the other hand, still has to satisfactorily exonerate himself from his so-called connection to Marcos crony, and powerful industrialist Eduardo Cojuangco. Butz Aquino has to prove that he is not just kid brother to Ninoy but a leader who has fully matured and is now deserving of the people's complete trust in the highest post.

Candidate Imelda

And what about the KBL side? In all likelihood, in the event of a fast-track Imelda Marcos will be fielded as presidential candidate, inasmuch as she maybe the only leader in the KBL camp who can readily mobilize the resources, particularly the staggering logistics needed, as well as the help of the military and the bureaucracy in the election. But how will Imelda's candidacy sit with other presidential aspirants like Enrile and Ople. Will these two gentlemen agree to running merely as her teammate?

And how will the KBL rank-and-file take an Imelda Marcos candidacy? The talk in the Batasan is that some 25 KBL assemblymen are poised to desert the party, once

Marcos goes. These 25 MPs, it is said, are already declaring themselves to all and sundry to be "free agents" in the event of the President's exit. Should this happen, Imelda could be in real trouble.

At its last meeting last Wednesday, Jan. 2, the Convenor Group, in a bid apparently to join all efforts to unite the Opposition, pledged itself to continue to seek a broader-based process for selection of candidates. Moreover, it also pledged to continue to consult with as wide a spectrum of the Opposition as possible. This should prove a welcome ray of political enlightenment for the much-beleaguered Convenor Group in the New Year.

Corazon Aquino vs. Imelda

Makati MR&MS. in English 4-10 Jan 85 pp 31, 32

[Article by Lita Torralba Logarta: "Ladies First or Guess Who Are Emerging in the Crystal Ball?"]

[Text] Is the Convenor Group's list of nine (reduced from 11) presidential possibilities for real? Or is it a cover for the true candidate?

MP Luis Villafuerte (UNIDO, Camarines Sur), while acknowledging that Ms. Corazon C. Aquino, one of the three Convenors, has steadfastly denied any presidential ambitions, makes no bones about the distinct possibility that Ninoy Aquino's widow might just be prevailed upon to change her mind. In which case, the interesting situation might just come to pass where--in a scenario which the Bicol solon says is even now being "strongly" rumored--President Marcos "retires" as early as this year in order to "oversee" the election of his successor. Who can only be, as the KBL's own "fast track" candidate, First Lady Imelda Romualdez Marcos.

"That," laughs Villafuerte, "is what politics is all about: you can never tell."

Asked to comment on the eight-point Declaration of Unity signed by the Convenor Group and its anointed nine hopefuls, Villafuerte gives out with another laugh: "Who can be against motherhood and apple Pie?" (See preceding story)

Turning serious, however, Villafuerte says: "Actually, it (the Declaration) is quite good and while it does not spell out the actual mechanics of unification, it should be the basis for a detailed platform of government. At least it shows a communality of interests of the various Opposition elements on certain principles and values."

Villafuerte, who represented UNIDO Chairman Doy Laurel in meetings and talks with Tanada, Cory Aquino and Jaime Ongpin who make up the Convenors Group, says that he made his own views known both orally and in writing to the Convenors. Since he himself is not in the original list of 11 (including Kalaw and Laurel) "fast track" candidates, he feels he can speak his piece, taking care of course, not to be abrasive.

Thus, he expressed (and continues to express) his admiration for both ex-Senator Lorenzo Tanada and Ms. Cory Aquino. To the former, he appealed for a non-authoritarian stance in the choice of a standard-bearer; addressing the latter, he underlined her position as the "heroine" of the Opposition and the trouble she lays herself open to by dabbling in politics. To both he said: "There is another way of making a choice."

Villafuerte clarifies: "The Opposition members of the Batasang Pambansa signed a manifesto to the effect that the process of selection must be done in consultation with a broader sector of the Opposition in the country. It may be 'slow track' or 'fast track,' but certainly not the 'fast track' as the Convenor Group has conceived it. There is, I see, an internal inconsistency in the system. How can three Convenors decide for us all? Why can't the 'fast track' be designed with sectoral and regional representation?"

Speaking of his own efforts at unifying the Opposition, Villafuerte recalls that all political parties were abolished with the declaration of martial law. Marcos then set up the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan which originally advertised itself as a "samahan" or an umbrella organization for different parties. Key leaders of the Opposition to Marcos were either in jail, abroad or silenced quietly in the absence of a free press. With the 1978 Interim Batasang Pambansa elections, Liberal Party president Gerardo Roxas, instead of reactivating the party, opted for a boycott. This then gave rise to regional parties, such as LABAN, Mindanao Alliance, Bicol Saro, Pusyon Bisaya, PDP, etc. And this, says Villafuerte, is where the trouble begins to arise when one talks of unity: everyone wants to keep his own distinct political identity.

There are only two ways, as Villafuerte sees it, to unite: One is to reinforce the terms of reference of a coalition, and the other is to form a national Opposition party. But this latter, he stresses, would not be possible without a clear working arrangement among the parties concerned. If each party went out to the provinces and began to organize on a local level, Villafuerte points out that the effects would be irreconcilable division.

In August last year, he then suggested the formation of a National Unification Committee, in which all political Opposition parties would be represented. This done, the 21 MPs who joined plunged into the practical aspects of unification, careful however not to publicize their efforts lest Malacanang be "alerted." Together with Marcelo Fernan (Pananghiusa, Cebu), Villafuerte set up a sub-committee which hammered out a "manifesto" two months later, in which it was specified that:

1. there would be no interference from anybody;
2. recognition be given to the core of Opposition leaders already in place in every constituency (with 59 Opposition MPs, this comes up to 36 recognized Opposition political constituencies);
3. recognition be accorded the Opposition leaders, irrespective of party affiliation, who narrowly lost or were cheated during the last elections and whose constituencies would then become "coalition territory," to be reorganized in the name of the National Unification Committee.

Both Ms. Aquino and ex-Senator Tanada, says Villafuerte, were invited to join the Committee but neither so far appears inclined to accept. He himself views with regret what he calls the "sidetracking" of the Committee's efforts by the Declaration of Unity.

"Obstacles to unity," he observes, "crop up when one is not open-minded about choices or patient with everybody or more tactful." Another deterrent to real unity, he hazards further, might be the possibility that the Convenor Group's list of 11, now reduced to nine, may be cover (set-up) for the true candidate. And so he asks: "How can interested parties decide for us all?"

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PHILIPPINES

VIRATA ORDERS AUDIT OF GOVERNMENT FIRMS

Number Proliferates

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Jan 85 p 13

[Article by Rene Alviar]

[Text]

The number of government-owned or controlled corporations and their subsidiaries are proliferating, instead of being lessened as required by an avowed policy of the government to trim itself of such corporations by selling them to the private sector or liquidating those that are not viable.

This was gleaned from the consolidated list of government-owned or controlled corporations made by the Commission on Audit, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Presidential Commission on Reorganization.

COA said that the number of government firms and their subsidiaries which should be subject to audit rose to 190, which was 25 more than the 165 firms listed in 1983.

Based on the list prepared by the three agencies, the National Development Company (NDC) had the most number of subsidiaries (32), followed by the Philippine National Oil Company and the Philippine National Bank.

A government financial report has shown that at least 72 subsidiaries of state-owned and controlled corporations are being audited by private accounting and auditing firms while 14 other subsidiaries were either not being audited at all or their auditors have remained unknown.

Of the 142 subsidiaries covered by the report, only 46 are being audited by the COA. The COA has been prevented from exercising its audit authority over the subsidiaries be-

cause of their alleged exemption from state audit coverage granted under their corporate charters. They also reasoned out that government audit could "impair" their competitiveness and financial viability.

Prime Minister Cesar E. A. Virata has recommended to Justice Minister Estelito Mendoza to prepare an Executive Order compelling all government-owned and/or controlled corporations to submit themselves to COA audit following the mandate of the Philippine constitution.

COA Chairman Francisco S. Tantuico Jr. has said that one of the problem areas is that the Constitutional provision only set two standards — whether the corporation is owned or controlled by the government.

Some Firms Listed

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 4 Jan 85 p 16

[Article by Ellen Samaniego]

[Text] Some 290 subsidiaries and affiliates of state-owned corporations may shortly be subjected to auditing by the Commission on Audit (COA) because of government pronouncements of keeping a tighter watch on their use of public funds.

These corporate entities, all registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), were previously beyond the auditing powers of COA based on a ruling by then Justice Minister Ricardo Puno on Corporations created under the Corporation Law.

Only privately-owned firms are normally created under this law and registered with the SEC. Government-owned enterprises are created by law and operate under special charters.

A consolidated list of these firms showed that they include 25 subsidiaries of the National Development Co (NDC), 23 affiliates of the Philippine National Oil Co., nine companies under the Philippine Tourism Authority, (PTA) and seven firms affiliated with the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS). Also included are seven subsidiaries of the Philippine National Bank (PNB), eight affiliates of the Philippine National Construction Corp (PNCC), nine firms controlled by the Human Settlement Dev Corp (HSDC), five companies under the Land Bank of the Philippines, five firms controlled by the Cultural Center of the Phil, and four under the National Food Authority (NFA).

The subsidiaries of the NDC are Asean Philippine Copper Holdings, Inc, Batangas Land Co, Construction Manpower Development Foundation, First Chicago Leasing and Equipment Credit Corp, GY Realty Corp, Iron and Steel Corp of Phils, Kamayan Realty Corp and Manila Gas Corp.

Other firms that are majority owned by NDC include Mindanao Textile Corp, NDC-Guthrie Estates, Inc, NDC-Guthrie Plantations, Inc, NDC Logistics Corp, NDC-Nacida Raw Materials, Inc, NDC-Plantations, Inc, NDC-Shell Minerals Investments, Inc, Nadeco Realty Corp, National Industrial Tree Corp, and National Precision Cutting Tools, Inc.

Also included in the NDC affiliates are National Rattan Corp, National Steel Corp, Negros Occidental Copperfield Mines, Inc, Philippine International Trading Corp (and its two affiliates--Phil Int'l, Development Corp and Center for International Trade and Expositions and Missions), Philippine Plate Mills Co, Inc, Philippine Phosphate Fertilizer Corp, and Pinagkaisa Realty Corp.

The subsidiaries of PNOC include PNOC Energy Development Corp, PNOC Exploration Corp, Malangas Coal Corp, PNOC Coal Corp, PNOC Geothermal Technology Corp, PNOC Enercon Corp, PNOC Energy Drilling, Inc, PNOC Energy Supply Base, Inc, and PNOC Shipping and Transport Corp.

Other PNOC affiliates include Petron Tankers Corp, PNOC Tankers Corp, Petrophil Corp, Bataan Refining Corp, Petrophil Tankers, Corp, PNOC Petroleum Tankers, Inc, PNOC Crude Oil Tankers, Inc, PNOC Petroleum Carrier Corp, PNOC Oil Carriers, Inc, PNOC Petrochemical Development Corp, PNOC Marine Corp, Filoil Refinery Corp, Petro TBA Corp, and Filoil Industrial Estates, Inc.

The COA has been barred from looking into the books of these corporations because of the legal issue governing their registrations. This ruling, however, may be set aside on account of the present government policy.

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PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST CITES 'MANIFESTATIONS OF U.S. IMPERIALISM'

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 3 Jan 85 p 5

["Of Laws and Men" by Procopio S. Beltran, Jr: "Evidence of U.S. Imperialism"]

[Text]

For me, US imperialism started way back in 1823 when then US President James Monroe first announced the Monroe Doctrine. This doctrine embodied the policy of the United States against European intervention in the Western Hemisphere. It made the United States practically sovereign in Latin America which comprises the countries of Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Peru, Paraguay, Uruguay, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Surinam, Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Haiti, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and the West Indies. A very great land area indeed!

The Philippines, although not covered by the Monroe Doctrine, is a victim of US imperialism because like the above-cited countries, the manifestations of US imperialism are present here, such as: (1) the presence of the protective mantle of US armed forces; (2) the presence of giant US transnational corporations; (3) our exports of raw materials are

principally bought by the US at cheap prices; (4) our imports of finished products principally come from the US at exorbitant prices; (5) we have billions of dollars of loans from US lending institutions; (6) large tracts of land are practically owned by big US corporations; and (7) our labor force is paid cheap wages by US transnational corporations.

Since I firmly believe that US imperialism is the root cause of widespread poverty wherever it may be found, I made a research of the economic conditions prevailing in the Latin American countries. The result shows that all of the Latin American countries under the yoke of US imperialism are widely exploited and enmeshed in grinding poverty. Some concrete examples are the following:

• Argentina — With the extensive growth of manufacturing largely controlled by the US citizens, large numbers of rural laborers have moved to the cities, settling in the industrial suburbs of the cities and crowding into the mush-

rooming slums. These slum dwellers live in miserable shantytowns known as villas miserias.

• Brazil — The leading investor nation in the country is the United States. The middle class consisted of only a few people. The former slaves remain at the bottom of the social scale and often continue to live on the same plantation as before. The small upper class of landowners are wealthy, educated and cultured while the larger mass of people are paid agricultural workers who are poor and ignorant and have little hope for betterment.

• Mexico — Of an estimated \$3 billion in foreign investments in the early 1970's about 80 per cent was from the US. Despite substantial economic progress, the uneven distribution of newly-created wealth has limited the advance of society as a whole. In 1969, only one quarter of the economically active population earned more than \$1,000 per year while another quarter earned more than \$200 per year.

• Chile — After 1914, the major investments came from the US. It is estimated that two out of every five Chileans live in urban shantytowns. Many of the city poor live also in tenements consisting of several rooms under one roof. The inquilinos, poor tenant farmers with negligible incomes, live with their families in thatched huts with adobe walls. There are also migratory farm laborers, called afuerinos, who are usually paid better than the sharecroppers but whose total incomes are even lower.

• Honduras — On the north coast, a separate economy was developed by the US-owned United Fruit Company and Standard Fruit Company. Honduras is one of the most underdeveloped countries in Latin America. It is the least developed industrially in Central America. Traditionally, the US companies

were allowed to do as they pleased, at times with generous concessions.

• West Indies — The reasons for the US intrusion into the West Indies are: radio and television, the development of local industries with US capital, the need for bauxite by American companies, the warmer climate for seasonal American migration, and cheap West Indies labor. The social structure is pyramidal, having a small white elite at the top, and small middle class of white, brown and a few blacks, and a large black base. To be white is to be well-off, socially secure, educated; to be black is to be poor, often semi-literate and underprivileged.

• Ecuador — The US is Ecuador's principal customer and supplier. Nearly half of the work force is engaged in agriculture. Land and farm income in Ecuador are distributed very unequal-

ly. About 2.5 per cent of the families involved in agriculture own and farm almost two thirds of the land and account for more than 40 per cent of the country's agricultural income. About a third of the other farm families own no land or equipment, work as laborers on farms owned by others, and have incomes that are near subsistence level. Agricultural technology is primitive and production depends on a large number of laborers per farm. Yields per laborers are low.

(Source: Collier's Encyclopedia, 1978 Edition)

With the conclusive evidence aforesaid, it is no wonder that millions of Filipinos are demanding the overthrow of US imperialism and the booting out of the US puppets who are selling our country down the river for "thirty pieces of silver."

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PHILIPPINES

JOSE SISON ON COMMUNIST PARTY, ARMED REVOLUTION

HK251011 Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 10-13 Jan 85

[1st in a series of 4 parts]

[10 Jan 85 p 8]

[Text] (December 26, 1984, was the 16th anniversary of the re-establishment of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP). From less than 15 young militants who attended the congress of re-establishment in 1968 somewhere in Central Luzon, the CPP has grown into one of the most significant political forces in the country, leading an armed revolution in all the main islands of the Philippine archipelago aimed at toppling what it calls the "U.S.-Marcos fascist dictatorship." In addition, the CPP has assumed a regional significance. It is the only communist movement in Southeast Asia with any possibility of winning political power in the next decade.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AND FEATURES [PNF] reprints below excerpts from a recent interview given to Japanese journalists by political detainee Jose Ma. Sison, whom Philippine Government authorities charge was the chairman of the CPP at the time of his arrest in late 1977. The complete text of the interview was submitted to PNF with permission from Mr. Sison to use it.)

1. On the Communist Party and Its Gains Up to 1984--The Communist Party of the Philippines has made great advances ideologically, politically and organizationally. It has correctly and successfully applied the theory of Marxism-Leninism on the concrete practice of the Philippine revolution; it has become deeply rooted among the Filipino people, especially the workers and the peasants; and it has become a nationwide organization of several tens of thousands of cadres and members covering all the provinces.

Through the national united front the people in their tens of millions are being aroused, organized and mobilized. The National Democratic Front is the most consolidated and broadcast united front organization in the underground. Local organs of democratic power have been created under the united front policy and are effectively governing millions of people. The proletariat and its party, the Communist Party of the Philippines, rely mainly on the basic alliance of the working class and the peasantry, win over the petty bourgeoisie and the middle bourgeoisie and take advantage of the splits among the big

compradors and landlords to isolate and destroy the enemy--the fascist dictatorial regime of the U.S.-Marcos clique.

The stage of the strategic defensive is now in its advanced phase and will soon pass into the stage of strategic stalemate. Platoon-size offensive operations are commonplace in the forty guerilla fronts, covering some 500 municipalities. In certain areas, company-size or even larger offensive operations are becoming more frequent. The New People's Army is reported to have some 10,000 automatic rifles and is growing at an accelerated rate in close to seventy provinces.

The Filipino revolutionaries are developing the theory and practice of people's war according to the specific characteristics of the country. The armed struggle has spread all over the archipelago and is intensifying in all major islands.

2. On the Requisites for Total Victory--There certainly are so many more things to be done in order to advance and win total victory in the national democratic revolution.

The CPP must train and develop through struggle at least 200,000 cadres and members in order to lead the people in all the 1,500 municipalities and cities.

The NPA must strive to reach the stage of strategic stalemate in a few years' time. It is not difficult to rise from the level of 10,000 rifles to 25,000 rifles before 1987 through intensified armed struggle.

Genuine land reform must be carried out. The mass base must be expanded and consolidated through the local organs of democratic power and the mass organizations for workers, peasants, youth, women and others.

There must be preparedness and vigilance against escalating U.S. support and intervention in favor of the Marcos fascist gang or any ultra-reactionary ruling clique succeeding it.

The revolutionary movement faces tremendous odds and must exert ever greater efforts in order to win greater victories. In the course of the struggle, there will be sacrifices and even some errors and failures.

So far, there have been no big errors or failures of such proportion as to cause serious damage to the entire revolutionary movement.

3. On the Present Alignment of Political Forces--The Filipino people are in contradiction with the Marcos fascist dictatorship, U.S. imperialism and feudalism. The working class, peasantry, urban petty bourgeoisie and the middle bourgeoisie are in constant conflict with U.S. imperialism and the local reactionary classes of big compradors and landlords.

The present alignment of economic and political forces is best expressed by the united front line: rely mainly on the basic alliance of the working class and the peasantry, win over such middle forces as the urban petty bourgeoisie and the middle bourgeoisie and take advantage of the splits within such reactionary classes, as the comprador big bourgeoisie and the landlord class in order to isolate the fascist dictatorial regime of the U.S. Marcos clique.

[2nd in a series of 4 parts]

[11 Jan 85 p 8]

[Text] 4. On the Old Communist Party (PKP)

The Lavaite group which calls itself Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas is of no consequence in Philippine affairs.

This group is a small sect perpetuating the grave anti-Marxist and anti-Leninist errors of the Lava dynasty. It committed political suicide in 1974 when it surrendered to the fascist dictatorship of the U.S.--Marcos clique and began to hail Marcos wrongly as the representative of the national bourgeoisie, instead of the big compradors and big landlords.

This group murdered (a number of) its young intellectual members in 1973 and 1974 in order to effect and enforce its capitulation to the U.S.--Marcos clique. By thus destroying its youth organization, the Malayang Pagkakaisa ng Kabataang Pilipino, this group further lost its chance to expand nationwide.

In the handful of barrios in Central Luzon that used to be influenced by the Lavaite group before 1974, the people now follow the leadership of the CPP.

5. On Why the Party was Re-established

Throughout the 1960's, the Lavas wanted to retain its dynastic control over the Communist Party; refused the rectification of historical and current errors; and opposed the revitalization of the Communist Party, the people's army and the united front. Thus, the Communist Party of the Philippines had to be reestablished on the theoretical foundation of Marxism-Leninism, conduct rectification and adopt all measures to rebuild the party, the people's army and the united front.

It was simply absurd that the leadership of the party should be passed on from one Lava brother to another (Vicente, Jose and Jesus) and then for a fourth time would be passed on to a nephew who was notoriously unqualified. Up to now, the general secretary of the Lavaite group is a mere deputy of Jose and Jesus Lava.

The possibility of a CPP or reunion with Lavaite pseudo-communist group is practically zero. The latter is a self-destructive and moribund group. It is a special anticommunist adjunct of the U.S.--Marcos clique and is thoroughly infiltrated and controlled by U.S. and Marcos agents.

6. On China's Foreign Policy--China is carrying out an independent foreign policy. It is in alliance with neither the United States nor the Soviet Union. So, it is not correct to say that China has degenerated into a junior partner of the United States, like Japan.

7. On the CPP's Foreign Policy--The CPP has always been an independent party. It carries out the Philippine revolution according to the best interests of the Filipino people. It maintains revolutions with parties abroad that are supportive of the self-reliant revolutionary efforts of the Filipino people. By carrying out their national democratic revolution, the Filipino people support the revolutionary efforts of other peoples of the world and contribute their share in the liberation of all peoples from the scourge of imperialism and all reactionary forces.

The CPP should further develop relations with all other communist and workers' parties it has relations with, including the Chinese Communist Party. It should also develop relations with more revolutionary parties and movements which respect its integrity and independence and treat it as an equal, and extend moral and material support to it in the spirit of revolutionary internationalism.

There is no communist party which can claim itself to be the center of the international communist movement. As far as the CPP is concerned, it maintains its integrity and takes its patriotic responsibilities seriously. It develops relations with more other parties on the basis of independence, equality, mutual respect and mutual support.

8. On the Aquino Assassination--Complete bankruptcy of the fascist dictatorial regime of the U.S.-Marcos clique. The people's outrage due to the Aquino assassination has fueled both the legal democratic mass movement and the revolutionary armed struggle. The CPP has played a major role in arousing, organizing and mobilizing the people to condemn more resolutely and militantly.

[3rd in a series of 4 parts]

[12 Jan 85 pp 2, 8]

[Text] 9. On the Effects of Martial Law--When the U.S.-Marcos clique made the coup and began the full-scale fascist counterrevolution in 1972, the CPP had only 2,000 members, the NPA only 350 automatic rifles. The revolutionary mass base was only a few hundreds of thousands.

Compare these figures with the latest estimates released by the U.S.-Marcos regime or those released by the CPP. And you can see that the fascist counterrevolution has only served to aggravate the crisis of the ruling system and stimulate the growth of the revolutionary forces.

We do not speak of a martial law period and a post-martial law period. It is misleading. Despite the formal lifting of martial law in 1981, the fascist

counterrevolution has become even more brutal. The puppet autocracy has remained; its repressiveness has remained. The struggle between the forces of the national democratic revolution and those of the fascist puppet counter-revolution has grown fiercer.

10. On the Growth of the Armed Revolution--The people's war is developing very well. As earlier pointed out, the stage of strategic defensive is already maturing and about to pass on to the stage of strategic stalemate. Elements of the strategic stalemate have already appeared in several areas, especially in Mindanao.

There is no timetable as to when the strategic stalemate will begin and will be over; and as to when the strategic offensive will be launched to wipe out the enemy in its final holdouts.

The strategic stalemate will be reached when temporary seizures of towns and provincial capitals as well as the annihilation of enemy companies or even battalions have become common place in all the regions outside of Metro Manila.

11. On Foreign Views of the CPP

The United States Government has started to express its apprehensions over the CPP and the NPA. It has nothing to worry about the Lavaite group because this group is collaborating with the Marcos fascist gang even as it claims to have Soviet support.

The United States, the Soviet Union, China, Japan and other countries perceive that the armed revolutionary movement led by the CPP is a growing serious challenge to the fascist dictatorship.

12. On the Soviet Union--I am not aware that the CPP has ever approached the Soviet Union for the CPSU (Communist Party of the Soviet Union). And I do not know what is the current attitude of the CPSU towards the CPP.

13. On the View That People's War is "Irrelevant" in the Philippines

How can the concept of people's war become irrelevant in the Philippines when in fact it is reaping victories here? All the nuclear and high-technology weapons of the U.S. are impotent and cannot be used to rescue its fascist puppets being ambushed, raided and arrested by a people's army fighting on the ground.

The weapons delivered by the U.S. to its puppets are being captured by the people in their effort to arm themselves. In a way, the U.S. Pentagon has become the arsenal of Filipino revolutionaries. And Marcos is also their chief transportation and supply officer.

If the United States has not learned its lessons well from the Vietnam war, the Filipino people are preparing to give it another lesson.

14. On the Country's Future Foreign Policy

When total victory in the national democratic revolution is won, the Filipino people will continue to uphold their national sovereignty and take command of their own development. Just as they shall have succeeded in ending U.S. imperialist domination, they shall use their proven strength in preventing the domination of the Philippines by any other foreign power.

The Philippines will pursue an independent and nonaligned foreign policy. It shall have normal trade and diplomatic relations with all countries of East Asia and the rest of the world. It will actively oppose the hegemonism of any superpower to use another superpower as the excuse to trample on its national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Filipino people will be the masters of their own destiny; and the Philippines will be a self-respecting and active member of the international community.

15. On the Relation of the Left to the "Middle Forces"--The forces of the Left are essentially representative of the class interests of the working class and the peasantry; just as the forces of the Middle are essentially representative of the class interests of the urban petty bourgeoisie and the middle bourgeoisie. Both Left and Middle forces have a common interest in the program of struggling for national liberation and democracy.

They are driven to unite by the need to dismantle the fascist dictatorial regime of the U.S.-Marcos clique and establish a democratic coalition government; carry out national industrialization and land reform; promote a national, scientific and mass culture; and pursue an independent foreign policy.

The united front and cooperation of the Left and Middle Forces are being realized in all major fields of social endeavor--political, economic, cultural, etc.

[4th in a series of 4 parts]

[13 Jan 85 p 2]

[Text] 16. On the AFP--The Armed Forces of the Philippines is the main component of reactionary state power in the Philippines. It is both the creature of U.S. imperialism and the instrument of coercion in the hands of the big compradors and landlords whose current chief representative is the fascist dictator.

The AFP looks like it is the private army of the autocrat who has put its favorite in command. But is it dependent on the U.S. for indoctrination, strategic planning, officer training and military supplies.

It is a puppet, antidemocratic parasitic, brutal and corrupt force. It is even escalating the violations of human rights. It is a major cause of inflation; and in turn, inflation is hitting it hard. It is weighed down by its own corruption and its essentially antipeople character.

It cannot succeed in its so-called counterinsurgency efforts because the people have a just cause and are waging all forms of revolutionary struggle against it. It is politically isolated and the ever growing armed struggle is inflicting more and more casualties on it.

17. On Gen. Ramos and Gen. Ver--General Ramos is a bone-deep counterrevolutionary agent of the U.S.-Marcos clique although he has more finesse than General Ver. People should not forget that General Ramos was one of the twelve men who conspired with Marcos in the declaration of martial law; and he is carrying out the fascist counterrevolution. He is also a second cousin of Marcos.

Whether in an acting or permanent capacity, he will follow the orders of Marcos. General Ver will still be around as NISA chief to advise Marcos on what orders to give to Ramos.

18. On the Effect of the Aquino Assassination on the AFP--Immediately after the Aquino assassination, Marcos loyalist officers were gloating over what they considered was an operational success. Then, they fell quiet about their success and started insisting to the officers and men a few hours before the radio-TV speech of Marcos on the evening of August 22, 1983, that the Aquino assassination had been the work of Communists.

The sustained outrage of the people, the gigantic mass actions and the findings of the Agrava Board have had the effect of diminishing the awe of an increasing number of (AFP) officers and men for the rabid Marcos loyalists among the officers. When sure that there are no counter-intelligence agents around, some AFP officers and men curse Marcos and Ver for destroying the reputation of the AFP.

More and more AFP personnel are beginning to express their wish for the restoration of the merit system, discipline, better pay and so on. They are against the system of overstaying generals, nepotism, favoritism, regionalism, corruption in the purchase of supplies, bullying of subordinates and so on.

The disaffection and sinking morale of AFP men are due not only to the Aquino assassination but to so many factors, including inflation and increasing casualties. The officers and men are bothered by the fact their families are suffering like the rest of the people and that they have to fight for a regime thoroughly detested by the people.

19. On Mr. Marcos and His Rule--There is no ruling coalition but the monopoly of political power by an autocrat who lords over his servants--military men, technocrats, business cronies, politicians, fake peasants and yellow labor leaders and so on.

In turn, the fascist autocrat is subservient to the U.S. government and the transnational corporations. It is more appropriate to speak of a narrow U.S.-Marcos combine against the Filipino people. Let us not misrepresent Mr. Marcos' underlings as his allies. In any coalition, allies maintain their independent and initiative. These certainly are lacking among Mr. Marcos' underlings.

20. On His Personal Situation--My indefinite incarceration strengthens and sharpens my determination to fight U.S. imperialism and its fascist puppets. I will either be murdered by the fascists or be set free by the people. I have undergone so many kinds of torture among which are: punching, deprivation of food, water and light; water cure; being shackled and manacled to a cot for eighteen months; solitary confinement for so many years in a small windowless cell. I think that my imprisonment is an example of the terrorism of the U.S. and its fascist puppets.

CSO: 4200/478

PHILIPPINES

BAGUIO PAPER HITS KBL OBSTRUCTION OF OPPOSITION

Baguio City THE GOLD ORE in English 5 Jan 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Obstructing the Opposition"]

[Text]

The KBL has gone a long way — from its avowedly healthy encouragement of a true and free opposition to a non-critical, judgemental baiting of the opposition's membership. Namecalling is the favorite form of KBL criticism, yet fundamental political critique which is so needed is not issued. Worse yet, the KBL capabilities for self-criticism have visibly declined — perhaps as a result of listening to itself for far too long.

The opposition struggles for unity, the only assurance of a worthwhile participation in forthcoming presidential elections and of the constitutionally promised chance at a democratic change in government leadership. While the proposals for unification are not necessarily an opposition platform, but simply a basis for initial agreement among the fractioned opposition. Yet these have been condemned without trial as "quixotic and draconian" by KBL leaders (*Bulletin Today*, December 28, 1984).

Political Affairs Minister Perez criticizes the opposition's resolve to work for a new Constitution while they seek access to power under the present Constitution. He does not suggest an alternative means by which an opposition might participate in national politics. Neither does he seem to remember the radical constitutional changes by which the KBL created and sustains its political position.

Information Minister Cendana not only slanders the opposition leaders as a whole, stating that they are "unaware of the improbability of their alleged commitments." He also dismisses them as being mere "headline-hunters." He does not provide any measure of the commitment needed to coalesce

a dispersed opposition in the face of KBL supremacy or to engage in parliamentary struggle with all the seats loaded. Neither does he cite the percentage of headlines successfully scooped by opposition figures.

The opposition faces many problems in the attempt at coalition. KBL kibitzing does not help. But then, the KBL to date has had the distinct advantage of dealing with oppositions, not an Opposition. It is no surprise that the ruling party worries about the possible need to turn in its fly-swatters for heavier defenses. *cdr

CSO: 4200/478

PHILIPPINES

MARCOS DOMINATION BEHIND SCENES AT KBL CAUCUS

Makati MR. & MS. in English 11-17 Jan 85 pp 20-23

[Article by Jose Ma. Nolasco--"Inside the KBL Caucus: A Majority of One"]

[Text] Truth so rarely heard through the corridors of power teetered on the brink of disclosure during the KBL caucus last Monday held at Malacanang Palace when three KBL stalwarts unexpectedly stood up to President and Ms. Marcos.

The major concern of the country today is Amendment 6, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile had said. No, it is not, Justice Minister and Pampanga Governor Estelito Mendoza countered. The people, he asserted, worry about the economic crisis gripping the country. The President watched and listened, making mental notes on what was being said.

Ali Dimaporo, a KBL Muslim leader in Mindanao, rose and spoke up. The people in his region, he said, are concerned about the rampant graft and corruption in government. According to him, the Natural Resources Ministry has failed to check illegal logging in the south. The Public Works and Highways Ministry, he said, refuses to weed out an undesirable regional director. To cover up anomalies in the National Food Authority, he continued, a grains warehouse was burned down recently in Mindanao. Brutally frank in naming names, Dimaporo also cited the "arrogant" people who curry favor from the First Lady and her brother Kokoy Romualdez. They are almost always accorded "special" treatment, he said. When will the people of Mindanao enjoy such privileged status? he asked. "Our enemies are right here," Dimaporo concluded. For minicing no words, he was heartily applauded by the KBL leaders.

Another Muslim leader, Batasan Speaker pro tempore Salipada Pendatun aired the warning that the government is losing the battle in the countryside to rebel groups. He moved that supervision over police forces be handed back to town and city mayors. At present, the local police is under the operational command of the Philippine Constabulary.

The President asked Enrile for his opinion on the peace and order situation. And Enrile's reply substantiated Pendatun's statements. The Defense Minister began by citing figures on the growing strength of the New People's Army, the military arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines. He said there was a

23 per cent increase in NPA activities. He also quoted extensively from a U.S. State Department report on the extent of the insurgency problem. Much of what Enrile reported was already public knowledge.

But, the Human Settlements Minister and Metro Manila Gov. Imelda Romualdez Marcos has had enough of the pessimistic reports on how the government is faring. According to sources inside the KBL caucus, Ms. Marcos turned to Enrile. "You have been Defense Minister for 15 years. Your report proves you failed in your job!" she blurted out. She could not understand why the KBL meeting should wind up in discordant notes. Is there no longer any bright spot in government today? We should be positive she reminded the KBL leaders.

Enrile countered that he is loyal to President Marcos, to the KBL and the country but that there are times when the truth has to be told even if painful. A hush fell on the entire hall. He was merely telling the truth, he told the President. The President waved his hand to put a stop to the heated exchange.

In fact, the President had only to wave a hand to dominate what was supposed to be a caucus. The origin of the word "caucus" is uncertain. According to WEBSTER'S NEW TWENTIETH CENTURY DICTIONARY, it probably was derived from "cau-cau-a-su," the word of the American Indian Algonquin tribe for adviser.

In modern usage, according to WEBSTER'S, a "caucus" is a secret meeting of members of a political organization...for the purpose of...(among other things) discussing and deciding questions of policy.

More than 600 national, regional, provincial, municipal, and city chairmen and officers of the KBL came to gather in what was billed as an expanded party caucus. Up for resolution was the party stand on what the KBL leaders perceived were pressing, political issues: a new law on presidential succession, the possible synchronization of national and local elections, and the controversial Amendment 6.

Contrary to newspaper reports Tuesday that were all based on a Malacanang press release, what actually transpired was far from what the KBL men--and everyone else, for that matter--had come to understand and recognize as the political process.

Discussions did take place during the much-ballyhooed, closed-door conference. But KBL stalwarts who were at the meeting told Mr. and Ms. Special Edition that these centered not on the agenda. There was dissension and disagreement, all right, but decisions were arrived at by only one man, the KBL overall chairman--President Marcos, himself. At one point during the caucus, the President definitely decided that the local and the presidential polls will be held as scheduled (1986 and 1987 respectively) saying that "All I have to do is write on a scratch paper and everything will be activated."

The President, they said, left no room for any misimpression that he was no longer in full control of the government and the party. Immediately after a

two-hour long meeting with his ministers, the President strode (with a slight limp) out of his study room with his coterie of Cabinet officials at half past 12 and marched into Maharlika Hall for the caucus. He laughed with his officials and looked in good spirits, the sources said.

For another two hours, he presided over the party caucus and spoke his mind. The President held on to the view that the all-important issue confronting the KBL is his state of health and well-being. The President could not hide his pique at how the Opposition was writing him off with their rumors that he is gravely ill and is about to step down. The troika Convenors Group led by Cory Aquino, widow of slain Opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino, Jr., finalized Wednesday last week a "fast-track" system of choosing a presidential candidate from among nine aspirants. The United Nationalist Democratic Opposition is likewise anticipating a special presidential election to be called by May this year. Former Sen. Salvador H. Laurel, the UNIDO chairman, announced Monday the Opposition coalition will hold a convention Feb. 9.

Even within the KBL ranks, the President could sense, not a few harbor doubts about his avowed intention of not dying or of his running for another term. Even the agenda of the caucus--the succession law, synchronization of elections, and the scrapping of Amendment 6--was premised on his ill-health. It is the Opposition leaders, the President stressed, who are "so frightened by the prospects of an election in 1985 that they have to organize in Europe, Hongkong, and the United States. They must think I have recovered already--which is correct."

Postponement of the elections was also ruled out. The President said he did not want the people to think "the KBL is suing for time."

Still, the President could not help asking himself: is the KBL ready to meet the Opposition head on in winning the people's hearts and minds in a much more difficult electoral battle? He then went on to sound out his KBL leaders on the attitudes of their constituents towards the administration.

The Chief Executive predictably harangued the KBL leaders to have the will to surmount all difficulties. He warned against a defeatist attitude. Quoting Napoleon, he said the difference between a good soldier and an ordinary soldier is "l'audace." Audacity in times of adversity--that is what KBL leaders must be imbued with. He admonished the KBL members not to be like dogs with their tails between their legs. They should fight as he himself (President Marcos) was ready to put on his army uniform once more and take up his gun to do battle with the enemy.

If only his party members could be as intensely loyal and tenacious as his long-time friend and ally, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fabian C. Ver, the President thought to himself. During the Cabinet meeting, he had held up Ver as a profile of courage. He told his Cabinet men of Ver's war exploits. With about 150 men, the President told his ministers, Ver was able to hold out in the hills of Montalban, Rizal against the onslaughts of Japanese troops. Only 20 of his men survived, the President continued, but the enemy was never

able to drive Ver out of his guerrilla stronghold. With Ver around, the President had said, he can also withstand any challenge put up by the Opposition.

"Let there be no hesitation. It is too late to lay doubt in any way on the party's capability when we have proven our capability," the President addressed the KBL caucus.

"As of today, we are a party on a political campaign," he declared. A campaign headquarters was ordered set up immediately. A public relations group was to be organized as soon as possible. Party reorganization and rehabilitation are to be undertaken; regional party chairmen and treasurers are to prepare their respective budget.

"I would like you to go back to your areas and strengthen our party," he exhorted the KBL men. "I would like you to do it with full knowledge that after every election, we have celebrated while the Opposition has condoled with itself."

And what became of the agenda the KBL caucus was supposed to take up? The President left it to the KBL Members of Parliament to work out the passage of the omnibus Electoral Code that will fix the dates of the 1986 local elections and the 1987 presidential polls. Legislative action by the KBL majority on all Batasan bills related to Amendment 6 remains suspended. As for a new law on presidential succession, no one dared bring up the matter during the caucus.

President Marcos had spoken. The KBL caucus--or, whatever--was over.

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PHILIPPINES

CITIZEN COOPERATION LEADS TO CAPTURE OF 'TERRORISTS'

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 9 Jan 85 pp 1, 7

[Text] Several members of the Sparrow Unit--the liquidation squad of the NPA responsible for the brutal killings of PC-INP members, government officials and innocent citizens--were slain and captured during continuing operations by various PC-INP units the past few days in different parts of Region XI, with five of them captured by government troopers right in the premises of the Davao City Hall, PC-INP RECOM XI sources said today.

The capture or killing of Sparrow Unit members by PC-INP elements in encounters and dragnet operations the past weeks were the results of the cooperation of concerned citizens who furnished information of their presence in the areas involved, the same sources said.

In Davao City, a team of the Metrodiscom Intelligence and Security Unit (MISU) led by Maj. Cesar Elenzano apprehended early evening recently five suspected Sparrow Unit members whose presence in the City Hall premises was reported by concerned citizens.

Col. Laudemer Kahulugan, Metrodiscom commander, in his report to Brig. Gen. Dionisio S. Tan-Gatue, Jr., RECOM XI commander, identified the suspects as follows:

Rafael Iguanon y Pagillana, 24, single, native of Baguio district, now residing at SIR, New Matina, Davao City; Ranulfo Operario y Batulayan, 23, single, bodega overseer, native of Monkayo, Davao del Norte, resident of Torres-Tavera streets, Davao City; Pascual Iguanon y Prigillana, 27, janitor, native of Baguio District; Richard Andayan y Paguibitan, 18, high school student, also of Baguio District; and Virgilio Edar y Edtang, 26, janitor, native of Bansalan, Davao del Sur.

In Pantukan, Davao del Norte, information from concerned citizens in Brgy. Lawaan, that town, of the presence of 7 armed men in the area led to a running gunbattle between a 9-man INP-ICHDF team led by P/Lt. Abraham Catre, Pantukan INP station commander and the armed group, resulting to the death of one of the NPA suspects.

The report of Col. Geronimo Valderrama to Gen. Tan-Gatue said the slain NPA was identified as Rolando Suico, a Sparrow Unit member operating in Pantukan

and its vicinities. Recovered from his body was a fragmentation grenade and subversive documents.

The rest of the armed men fled toward the forested area of Brgy. Togup when Suico was hit fatally in the crossfire.

In another development, two other suspected NPAs were captured during dragnet operations conducted by a PC-INP-ICHDF team led by Capt. Melchisedeck Bargio PC in Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur.

Col. Patrick Madayag, Davao del Sur Provincial Commander, identified the two as Alfonso Redola Agosto alias Flor, single, resident of Sitio Talisay, Coronon, Sta. Cruz an NPA member; and Fredo Solomon alias Efren, 28, resident of the same barangay, an NPA informer. Confiscated from Agosto were assorted ammunition and fatigue uniforms.

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PHILIPPINES

LOCAL INVESTORS SELLING OUT TO JAPANESE PARTNERS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 11 Jan 85 p 16

[Article by George T. Nervez and Arleen C. Chipongian]

[Text] Japanese investors are taking over joint-venture enterprises here because local partners are helpless in the face of high interest costs, tight credit and generally adverse business conditions.

The Japanese business "invasion" is taking shape in the hotel industry, motorcycle assembly and manufacturing, food processing and other business activities.

In the hotel industry, Japan Airlines and Japan Airlines Development Co. Ltd. recently gained almost total control (91.6 percent) of the Manila Garden by pumping in P210.2 million in fresh capital.

The Japanese group previously held only 10.3 percent, while the local investors, the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) and the Philippine Hoteliers Inc. had 89.7 percent equity ownership of the Makati five-star hotel.

Philippine Hoteliers, the original majority owners now have only 8.4 percent holdings in the hotel after the Japanese takeover.

The Japanese takeover was made possible when the DBP sold its shareholdings, which accounted for 73.8 percent of the outstanding capital stock of Manila Garden.

Similar takeovers by Japanese and other foreign interests, are expected shortly as in the Century Park Sheraton and the Manila Mandarin that are controlled by the DBP.

The All Nippon Airways (ANA), which has minority holdings in Century Park, has reportedly expressed interest in increasing its ownership of the five-star hotel.

The DBP has also been in search of buyers for its equity holdings in the Manila Mandarin, another Makati five-star hotel.

DBP vice chairman Don Ferry reported that the Singapore-based Sapna Holdings Ltd., representing Brunei interests, bought out the DBP's equity.

However, Sapna Holdings has reportedly backed out of the talks, DBP officials said.

Ferry has also said Indonesian investors were interested in buying DBP's holdings in Century Park, which is worth about P168 million or 78 percent of the hotel's equity.

In motorcycle manufacturing and assembly, three Japanese motorcycle giants, Honda, Kawasaki and Suzuki of Japan, have taken over joint ventures with local partners.

Only Norkis Trading Co., remains under Filipino control. Its Japanese partner is Yamaha Corp. of Japan.

Recently, Ajinomoto Co. Inc. of Japan raised its equity holdings to a 50-50 percent sharing with its local partners led by Leonardo Ty.

Other companies taken over by their foreign partners include Shell Gas Phils. Inc., whose local owners, the First Philippine Holdings Corp., sold out 99.9 percent equity to Shell Petroleum N.V., its dutch partners.

The BOI meantime, reported that two multinational companies invested some P9.9 million in their local affiliates through the provision of Central Bank circular 970.

IBM World Trade Americas/Far East Corp. of the United States pumped in P8 million worth of computer systems, software, maintenance parts and supplies to its local affiliate, IBM Phils. Inc.

IBM Phils. is engaged in the marketing of IBM computers, office equipment, supplies and other related services in the local market.

Another foreign company, Edward Keller Holding Ltd. of Zurich, Switzerland, invested P1.9 million in its local affiliate, Edward Keller (Phils.) Inc. through the conversion into equity of the outstanding reimbursable expenses due the Swiss company from the domestic affiliate.

The company is an importer, manufacture, trade contractor and exporter of Philippine products. It also operates as managing agent of local corporations, partnerships and other forms of business organizations in the country.

The BOI said that applications of both IBM and Edward Keller's investments into their local affiliates through CB 970 were received by the BOI and the Central Bank prior to the circular's expiration last October 15.

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PHILIPPINES

BATALLA ANALYZES SUPREME COURT DECISION ON DETAINEES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 10 Jan 85 p 4

[Commentary by Apolonio Batalla: "A Doctrinal Change?"]

[Text] Students of the law would be delighted if one of these days some members of the Supreme Court should release their respective extended opinions in the case in which the court, by a brief resolution, directed the release of Cynthia Nolasco and Willie Tolentino from confinement.

The opinions could show how substantial was the doctrinal change in the position of the court since the decision in the Garcia-Padilla case of April 20, 1983.

There are differences in the facts of the two cases. In Garcia-Padilla, the fact that the detainees were being held on charges of rebellion or subversion seemed to have been glossed over by the court.

That fact was vaguely adverted to in the return of the writ as follows: "The corresponding charges against the said detainees have been filed in court and before the Acting Provincial Fiscal of Nueva Vizcaya where they are pleading."

In Nolasco, it is clear that the detainees were charged with illegal possession of subversive documents before the Quezon City Metropolitan Trial Court, that they were granted bail and were ordered released by the court, but would not be released by the military on the ground they were being held under Preventive Detention Action.

It was easier for the tribunal to arrive at the decision to order the release in the Nolasco case because a court had acquired jurisdiction over the persons of the detainees and had already granted bail.

We may presume that the Supreme Court was zealous in asserting the power of the courts under those circumstances.

There was another difference in the facts of the two cases. In the Garcia-Padilla case, the Supreme Court was presented by the military with a set of facts that tended to show rebellion or conspiracy to commit rebellion--a conference, the participants scampering to all directions, a revolver with live bullets, ammunition for an M16 rifle, printing paraphernalia and subversive documents.

On the other hand, when Nolasco's house was raided only allegedly subversive documents were found.

In the Morales case, the decision in which was handed down a few days after the Garcia-Padilla case, the facts are also different from the Nolasco case.

In Morales, the petitioners were charged with rebellion in court and they alleged they had been denied bail.

In all three cases, either the Presidential Commitment Order or the Preventive Detention Action was involved. These directives were issued pursuant to and were given validity by the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus.

The position of the majority of the court in Garcia-Padilla and in Morales was the suspension of the privilege implies the holding of a person without bail.

Since the PDA was invoked by the government in the Nolasco case, the implication is the Supreme Court overturned the doctrine enunciated in the two previous cases. In arriving at the position in Nolasco, how significant a role did the peculiar facts of that case play in the thinking of the court?

The answer may come in the extended opinions. They may show how substantial the change in doctrine, if any, has been.

For all we know, the thinking of the court was affected by the President's pronouncement in the Pimentel case at or about the promulgation of Garcia-Padilla.

Pimentel had been arrested by virtue of a PCO. Archbishop Cronin requested the President to lift the PCO because he said Pimentel was innocent.

The President replied he had no power to release Pimentel because he had been charged in court.

That statement was cited by two members of the court in their respective opinions in the Morales case as they insisted on the view that the right to bail is not impaired by the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus.

Those members were Justices Claudio Teehankee and Vicente Abad Santos.

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PHILIPPINES

CORPORATE INVESTMENTS FALL BY 36.7 PERCENT

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 9 Jan 85 p 16

[Article by Ellen Samaniego]

[Text] Fresh corporate investments last year suffered a 36.7-percent fall from P5.54 billion in 1983 to P3.58 billion, according to figures from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

The investments represent the paid-up capital of newly-organized enterprises and additional equity infusion of existing business concerns.

The 19.96-billion decline in fresh corporate investments was traced to the lower capital infusions made by both new and existing enterprises, which reflected the economic difficulties that prevailed in the country last year.

According to the SEC, the investments made by 5,562 newly-organized enterprises last year only reached P1.15 billion or 34.3-percent lower than the preceding year's P1.75 billion investments made by 10,274 new entities.

Likewise, only 573 existing entities managed to expand their businesses in 1984 from the previous year's 644. This resulted in the 35.88-percent decline in additional investments from P3.79 billion in 1983 to only P2.43 billion this year.

Of the 5,562 firms newly registered with the SEC in 1984, about 4,533 are stock entities and 1,029 are non-stock corporations, according to the SEC report.

The 4,533 stock entities formed during the period include 3,228 corporations and 808 partnerships that are wholly-owned by Filipinos. About 444 stock firms have foreign equity participations, of which 376 are corporations and 68 partnerships.

Total stock corporations registered with the SEC last year reached 3,604, which put in new investments amounting to P1 billion, 38.8 percent down from the 1983 level of P1.65 billion made by 4,587 corporations.

The 3,228 fully-owned Filipino corporations invested a total of P907.62 million, 43 percent down from the year-ago investments of P1.59 billion infused by 4,141 corporations. The rest are partly owned by foreigners with investments amounting to P93.86 million from P44.17 million recorded in 1983.

Partnerships organized during the year totaled 876. They invested P147.1 million. Last year, 988 new partnerships had a combined investments of P112.63 million.

Of the amount, about P34.91 million were contributed by the 68 firms with foreign equity participation, 686.4 percent up from the P4.44 million made by 61 firms in 1983.

Meantime, foreign owned companies operating in the country brought in last year additional capital worth P49.3 million or 117.5 percent more than the preceding year's P22.67 million.

Their number, however, dropped from 61 in 1983 to 53.

The SEC, likewise, reported that of the 573 firms that expanded last year, 568 were corporations and they invested P2.43 billion. Five partnerships also made additional investments worth P335,000.

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PHILIPPINES

PROVINCIAL KBL LEADERS FACE 1986 SEVERANCE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 9 Jan 85 p 4

[Article by Jesus Bigornia]

[Text] Exulting over the prospect of an extended tenure local elective officials fail to perceive the purpose behind postponement of local elections from January to May next year. Joy has obscured the vision of provincial governors, city and municipal mayors and their councilmen, to the possibility that their heads may roll between January and May. They can see only that a Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) caucus in Malacanang last Monday is giving them a five-month reprieve before they step down from office.

Few, if any, of the local elective officials realize that when their terms of office expire on January 31 next year, they will be serving in holdover capacity over the next four months or so. They would thus be subject to removal from office or replacement by the appointing authority. Their continued stay in office would then depend on the whims and caprices of Malacanang. They would have no recourse when kicked out by or on orders of the President.

It is generally known in political circles that many provincial and local KBL leaders are teetering on the brink of defection to the opposition. Close advisers of the President have denounced to him partymen of doubtful loyalty. The January-May period could be a convenient (for party strategists) "beheading" time. Among the heads the political seers already predict as in danger are those of some of the ten city and municipal mayors of Metro Manila tagged by an officially-conducted poll (denied by Metro Manila Vice Gov. Ismael Mathay Jr.) with poor performance. The caucus decision is not all sunshine because not a few tears will be shed, after all is said and done.

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PHILIPPINES

LETTER REVEALS 'FEELINGS' OF COMPANY GRADE OFFICERS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 9 Jan 85 pp 4, 9

[Column by Orlando F. Aquino: "Letter From a Young Officer"]

[Text] A junior officer of the military establishment, a graduate of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), wrote to express the "feelings and sentiments" of his fellow officers belonging to the "lower echelon" of the Armed Forces--from second lieutenant to major representing the "majority of the officers corps" of the organization.

"Members of my class and other PMA classes will be elated should our message be published," he said. A condensed form of his letter follows:

"Like many other officers, I graduated from the only prestigious military institution in the country, passing through the rigid training of the PMA. As a young 2nd lieutenant, I was assigned to the South, surviving those raids and ambushes. My idealism as a young officer and the professionalism implanted into my brain has remained intact. There were many instances when we were admired and looked up to by the people as guardians of our country.

"But then things changed in 1981 and our frustrations and disappointments became visible. Today our military is always in the limelight not because of achievements but because of atrocities. We, being idealistic, became demoralized everytime we hear of anomalies involving military people.

"Name it (the anomaly) and the military has it: from lower rank of the armed forces who are involved in abuses, robbery and holdup to the highest rank involved in car-naping, double murder and dollar salting. The graft and corruption in the staffs are rampant as evidenced by a lowly major being able to live in White Plains, Corinthian and other expensive subdivisions. Abuses of military personnel belonging to the Presidential Security Command (PSC) and Metrocom are very glaring, particularly in the collection of 'tong' and protection money.

"There is also rank discrimination in promotions, like junior officers close to them (the powers that be) being given precedence over senior and competent officers who have risked their lives assigned to critical areas. Those favored are usually the bodyguards, chauffeurs and intelligence men. More

often, politicians influence, if not dictate, decisions, thus making the military not neutral. These are bad examples for us young officers and the cause of much demoralization.

"One of the most abhorrent events is the implication of our chief of staff in the Aquino assassination. We cannot deny that we are dismayed by this event and that our morale is at its lowest ebb. I feel embarrassed. The people seem to curse us as if the unfortunate incident involved all the members of the military.

"I heard some of my co-officers expressing the desire to resign, just like me. But we still have that commitment to God, country and our people. So let us have this commitment to continue and maybe we can help in the near future to restore the lost prestige of the military. With Lt. Gen. Ramos as acting chief of staff our morale has been revived and our composure has somewhat been regained to infuse in our followers once more that sense of mission of being protectors of our people.

"We pray that President Marcos will act to strengthen the morale of the military. Belonging to the young ones, we are concerned about our future. What kind of officers will the military be having in the near future? I am telling this because we will be the ones affected--and also the people. We must remember that power is temporary and now is the time to put things in order. Don't wait for us to play guns and pull the trigger. For the sake of the young officers of the military, the decision should be for the interest of all."

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PHILIPPINES

JAPANESE ENVOY ON POLICY OF 'SOFT LOANS'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 9 Jan 85 p 6

[Text] The Japanese government has extended soft loans to developing countries, including the Philippines, which cannot afford the "too expensive" interest rates of commercial loans.

Japan, after all, relied upon foreign financial help to rebuild its economy devastated at the conclusion of World War II, according to Yoshio Okawa, Japanese ambassador to the Philippines.

Okawa's statements capped a kickoff ceremony for the annual five-day press observation tour for Filipino journalists on Japanese-funded projects spread throughout the country.

"We ourselves had been a developing country. We know what it is to develop your national economy. It's not easy. You need soft money (low interest rates on loans)," Okawa told BULLETIN TODAY.

Japan, since 1967, has extended ¥417 billion (some US\$1.6 billion or ₱33.4 billion at a \$1-₱20 conversion rate) to the Philippines.

Of the Japanese financial institutions, the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) has extended a total of ¥341.3 billion (or \$1.35 billion or ₱27 billion) soft loans since 1971 where the interest rate started at 3.5 percent per annum until it decreased to 3.25 percent in 1973 until 1978.

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PHILIPPINES

NPA DISARMS 17 CHDF MEN, BURNS DETACHMENT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 9 Jan 85 p 6

[Text] Zamboanga City--A group of New People's Army (NPA) rebels disarmed 17 militia members and burned their detachment last Monday afternoon in Zamboanga del Norte, while four persons, including a preacher and a councilman were killed by suspected rebels in the last three days in the two Zamboanga provinces.

The NPA rebels were also suspected to be behind the two recent fires here, one of which caused a P2 million damage to the Don Tomas Sagun Elementary School in Pagadian City last Sunday night and a building of the Ministry of Human Settlements at Laka Dagoy, San Miguel, Zamboanga del Sur.

PC reports on the rash of NPA activities came on the heels of the raid of the town of Tabina, Zamboanga del Sur last Friday where a large group of rebels occupied the town and seized some 100 firearms of the police, militia, and security forces of the mayor.

The report received by the 9th PC-INP regional command here said 17 members of the Civilian Home Defense Force in Pinan, Zamboanga del Norte were disarmed last Sunday afternoon by about 80 NPA rebels wearing military uniform.

The rebels burned the CHDF detachment before they fled toward a forest.

Killed by the suspected rebels were barangay councilman Enrique Fernandez, 46, of Mati, Pitay, Zamboanga del Norte who was shot dead by four men while on his way home Monday.

CSO: 4200/478

PHILIPPINES

'QUESTIONABLE' MILITARY ACTIVITIES PROMPT CONCERN IN DAVAO ORIENTAL

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 4 Jan 85 pp 1, 7.

[Article by Jimmy Estoista and Rammie Tan]

[Text] Mati, Davao Oriental--Brig Gen Jaime Echeverria, chief of the 11th Regional Unified Command, has reportedly reacted promptly to reports about the alleged questionable activities of a certain Lt Col Salvador Sayson and Capt Gil Taujo in the outskirts of Mati, Davao Oriental.

Reports gathered by these reporters indicated that Sayson and Taujo, backed by 12 heavily armed men allegedly members of the so-called "Lot Command" [as published, but presumably "Lost Command"] have remained in Panumbon, Mati long after completing their "election mission" to provide security to candidate Leopoldo "Polding" Lopez during the May 14 Batasan elections. Their continued stay in Sitio Don Martin Marundan in Panumbon has allegedly caused fear and anxiety among residents of the place.

What has been a relatively peaceful barangay is now tense and people are afraid to roam around freely, one outspoken resident told these reporters.

Only the other week, it was gathered, one of the residents of the place was allegedly mauled by one of the armed men resulting in his being brought to the hospital for emergency treatment. The man had to be spirited away before a formal investigation can be made.

In a directive to Lt. Col. Carlos Peña, PC-INP provincial commander of Davao Oriental, General Echeverria has allegedly ordered the arrest of Sayson, Taujo and the 12 "Lost Com-

mand" members. Echeverria's directive reportedly came in the wake of an order allegedly coming from Lt. Gen. Fidel Ramos, acting AFP chief of staff, to investigate complaints of residents of Panumbon.

Meanwhile, military sources said the alleged plot to liquidate Gov. Francisco G. Rabat as published by a Davao City tabloid was reportedly hatched by an armed group in Bonan which is located within the sitio of Don Enrique Lopez.

The sources further told these reporters that the plot was concocted by the armed men, not by members of the New People's Army as reported.

CSO: 4200/451

PHILIPPINES

'INDIFFERENCE' THREATENS TO WHITTLE DAVAO DEL NORTE KBL

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 4 Jan 85 pp 1, 7

[Text] Tagum, Davao del Norte--The ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) party in this province is in danger of losing some of its prominent leaders to the opposition unless higher echelon would step in to avert an impending political mutiny.

This was learned today from the quarters of Vice Governor Gelacio P. Gementiza, lawyer Teodoro S. Dizon, Jr, Barangay Captain Antonio M. Lagunzad and former Councilor Emilio Nick Valle.

The four KBL stalwarts have reportedly announced their intention to bolt the ruling party because of alleged indifference by their colleagues who had ready access to the corridors of power.

Gementiza was reported to have started resuscitating the Nationalista Party from its moribund state. The vice governor was also reported to have started town-hopping, scouting for leaders.

The seeming indifference of Gov Gregorio R. Dujali towards the vice governor observers said must have been the reason why the political idol of the Boholanos of the province has been disenchanted with the ruling party. The governor is the incumbent KBL chairman of the province.

Barangay Captain Antonio M. Lagunzad on the other hand lamented that his barrio did not receive any fund releases from the municipal government despite the fact that like him the mayor and sangguniang bayan members are all KBLs.

He cited the major problems of roads, drainage and proper disposal of garbage which, he said, have been utterly neglected by the local KBL adminis-

tration. As if to add insult to injury the mayor blocked the disbursement of funds of barangay Magugpo, Lagunzad further said.

"The people in the countryside are not only disgusted with the lackadaisical performance of many local officials belonging to the party in power, the trend of disenchantment is already irreversible," lawyer Teodoro S. Dizon, Jr., a member of the KBL legal panel said.

The upsurge of insurgency in Davao del Norte can be traced to the apparent neglect of the present leadership of the province in helping the people in the countryside from atrocities perpetrated by armed men, Dizon stressed.

Former Councilor Emilio Nick Valle said the growing disenchantment of the people of Tagum in the bureaucracy has been caused by the utter failure of the local administration in giving what is due them in terms of development.

He said several small busi-

nessmen transacting with some local offices were given rough treatment by arrogant employees. This he said are driving many of them away from the government, yet officials who knew about it did not lift a finger to curb the malfeasance.

Lagunza is reportedly joining the UNIDO which is headed by Mambabatas Pambansa Rolando C. Marcial, while Dizon will reportedly join the PDP/LABAN. Valle on the other hand is planning to rejoin the Nationalista Party which is being reportedly revitalized by Gementiza. (LAO)

CSO: 4200/451

PHILIPPINES

LAUREL INVITES CONVENOR GROUP, OTHERS TO CONFERENCE

HK011423 Manila BUINESS DAY in English 1 Feb 85 p 22

[Text] United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO) President Salvador Laurel yesterday invited the Convenor Group, its presidential nominees, sector and representatives and other opposition leaders to take part in a national unification conference on 10 March.

Opposition MPs, elected local officials, ex-officio delegates such as former presidents, vice-presidents, senators, congressmen, governors and city mayors of the opposition as well as representatives of specific sectors such as the youth, labor, business, women and professionals will also be among the 450-500 delegates to be invited.

The conference, originally set for 9 February, was postponed for 10 March to give time to all opposition, including those now in the United States, to take part in discussions on how best to select candidates for president and vice-president.

Members of the Aquino family have also been invited, with Laurel asking Dona Aurora Aquino, mother of former Sen Benigno S. Aquino, Jr., to be the key note speaker.

Subject to ongoing negotiations, the conference will strive to consolidate all proposals on the selection system of the Convenor Group, the National Unification Committee spearheaded by Laurel's Unido, and other groups to ensure that only one official ticket will run for the opposition.

Laurel said the postponement of the conference will also enable all parties to thresh out remaining kinks on the selection system.

To handle conference requirements will be a multi-party preparatory committee to be chaired by Jaime Ferrer (Philippine Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan) and MPs Luis Villafuerte (Unido), Neptali Gonzales (LP), Lito Atienza (LP), Pablito Sanidad (FP), Rolando Marcial (PDP-LABAN), Marcelo Fernan (Panaghiusa-Unido), Homobono Adaza (Mindanao Alliance), Rogaciano Mercado (National Union for Liberation), Wilson Gamboa (Unido) and Unido secretary-general Rene Espina, as members.

The conference will also take up the opposition's program of government, the improvement of the Election Code and acceptance of nominations of potential standard bearers who will then be governed by the method approved in the conference.

Laurel said he will try to convince the Convenor Group to shelve its fast track system since "there is no reason for having two vehicles in selecting candidates to represent the opposition in a presidential election."

Laurel said the Convenor Group may just discontinue its efforts since it "was only achieved to address an emergency situation and members of the group themselves have said that if the existing political opposition parties could come up with a system to cope with such a situation, there is no reason for them to push their fast track system."

CSO: 4200/484

PHILIPPINES

MASS GUERRILLA GRAVE REPORTED IN MINDANAO

OW040743 Tokyo KYODO in English 0650 GMT 4 Feb 85

[Text] Manila, 4 Feb (KYODO)--The bodies of 180 guerrilla members of the communist-led New People's Army (NPA) were discovered last week in a common grave near the boundary between Zamboanga del Norte and Misamis Occidental Provinces in norther Mindanao, military officials reported in Zamboanga City on Sunday.

The report said that the NPA dead were part of a 400-strong rebel band that attacked a military observation post in Zamboanga del Sur last 27 November.

Military officials said that reinforcements sent to the beseiged observation post pursued the rebels, who fled north carrying their dead and wounded comrades.

Meanwhile, 14 former guerrilla sympathizers were reported to have been massacred, allegedly by an NPA liquidation squad in a village in Turkuran Town north of Zamboanga City. A Philippine constabulary report said the 14 men were taken one by one from different houses, then lined up and shot before horrified residents.

Witnesses said the killers wore the uniforms of a Philippine army unit that was ambushed in December last year, losing one officer and 10 soldiers.

CSO: 4200/484

PHILIPPINES

JUDGE'S CUSTODY DECISION MEETS WITH CRITICISM

HK020810 Hong Kong AFP in English 0744 GMT 2 Feb 85

[Text] Manila, 2 Feb (AFP)--The president judge in the Benigno Aquino case came under fire today for reversing his detention order for 23 military men accused of murdering the opposition leader and his purported assassin, Rolando Galman.

Justice Manuel Pamaran of the Sandiganrayan, a trial court for public servants charged with graft and other crimes connected with their positions, agreed Thursday to place the soldiers in their commanding generals' custody.

"Can the anti-graft court now blame the people for thinking that it has placed itself in the untenable position of being dictated to?" the MALAYA newspaper said in a front-page editorial.

"And if this be the case...can the people be blamed for suspecting that the accused, except perhaps a few who will play the role of scapegoat, are set for acquittal?" the mass-circulation daily added.

The judge's decision came after three detention centers, the Manila City Jail, the suburban national penitentiary and the National Bureau of Investigation, refused to take the soldiers in, pleading lack of space.

The Air Force Chief Major General Vicente Piccio, commander of the 22 accused, presented the implementing rules of a presidential decree dated October 1982, allowing military custody of indicated soldiers denied bail by civilian courts.

The rules were said to have been promulgated by Army Forces Chief Gen Fabian Ver, who was charged as an accessory in the Aquino-Galman murders on 24 January for allegedly trying to cover up the crime.

A total of 25 military men and one businessman were charged. The day after their indictment, Justice Pamaran ordered the detention of 17 accused as principals, led by Air Force General Luther Custodio, and six alleged accessories who failed to post bail.

In his 31 January decision to leave the 23 soldiers in the custody of their superiors, the judge said: "Due regard for established substantive and procedural blueprints is far more important than any momentary excitement."

He said the validity of the decree's implementing rules had not been questioned before his court. Lupino Lazaro, lawyer for supposed assassin Mr Galman's family and the sole private prosecutor in the case, yesterday vowed to contest the decree before the Supreme Court.

Prominent lawyer Joker Arroyo, who defends suspected dissidents charged before military and civilian courts, today assailed the "multiple standards of justice" allegedly shown by the court and said "the military would want its men treated differently."

Roman Catholic primate Jaime Cardinal Sin yesterday indirectly criticized the decision to allow military custody for the 23 soldiers but said he still expected a fair trial due to a new vigilant local press and "the new Filipino who would not stand for injustice anymore" after the Aquino assassination.

CSO: 4200/484

PHILIPPINES

AGUSAN AMBUSH, BUTUAN 'SPARROW' INCIDENTS REPORTED

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 3 Jan 85 pp 1, 6

[Article by Carlos J. Flaviano]

[Text] Butuan City--Ten were killed, three government troopers, two civilians and five communist terrorists and ten other injured, eight civilians and two army troopers in a spate of violence that erupted in three separate incidents in Butuan City and Agusan del Norte last Saturday (Dec 22).

A military vehicle of the 29th Infantry Battalion stationed of Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte, was ambushed at barangay Baligian, Jabongan, Agusan del Norte, 62 kilometers northeast of this city, killing on the spot Cpl Samuel Tabamo, Cpl Alfredo Ortiz, driver of the army vehicle, and an unidentified civilian, reportedly a brother of another army trooper who was a passenger of the ill-fated vehicle. Wounded were Cpl Pasanting and Pfc Bellarmia. They are presently confined at the AFP Mobile Surgical Hospital in Bancasi, this city.

Report reaching the headquarters of the 2/4 Infantry brigade at Bancasi, this city, said that the army truck was returning home from Badas, Suriga del Norte.

The truck was negotiating a zig-zag portion of the highway when ambushed by an estimated 60 fully-armed men of the communist terrorist band.

The timely arrival of a reinforcement unit of the same battalion prevented the ambushers from rushing the beleaguered government troopers and seize the firearms of those killed and wounded.

In the ensuing firefight, five of the rebel ambushers were killed (by body count) when the troopers doggedly pursued the fleeing terrorist band and blasted them with the use of a 90 recoilless rifle (RR). The rest fled towards the mountain fastness of the rebel sanctuary.

Meanwhile, three separate violent incidents erupted in the city.

Around 9:25 in the morning (Sat Dec 22), two Sparrow members lobbed a handgrenade at a police mobile team while cruising the highway at barangay Bading, on routine patrol. Military intelligence report said that one of the Sparrows threw the grenade on the path of the moving police vehicle and exploded before hitting the target thus injuring eight civilian by-standers.

The two suspects lost themselves among the shanties nearby and made good their escape.

All the injured civilians were brought to two government hospitals in the city.

Less than three hours from the grenade throwing incident and less than two kilometers from the scene, a constable driving his own tricycle was shot twice with a 45 cal pistol on the head and the body by one of the passengers believed to be a member of the Sparrow unit causing his instantaneous death.

Police authorities identified the victim as Sgt Welson Devera of the local constabulary command. Witnesses saw the gunman walked calmly towards the Ong Yiu squatters area this city. Two expended shells were found in the scene of the crime.

Later in the evening, a resident of barangay Maug, this city, was shot in cold blood by members of the Sparrow in the presence of the horrified barangay folk who attended the barangay benefit dance. The gunman, according to eyewitnesses, inched his way near the victim and shot him on the neck. Seeing the fallen body of the victim still moving, the gunman pumped another bullet on the body with the use of a 38 cal revolver.

Police identified the victim as Efren Bulwen, a resident of the same barangay. The victim, according to report, was a known toughie in the neighborhood.

CSO: 4200/451

PHILIPPINES

MR. & MRS. RIDICULES OFFICIALS, OTHERS

Makati MR.&MRS. in English 4-10 Jan 85 pp 8-12

[Article: "People of the Year"]

[Text] Ferdinand E. Marcos--Living Legend of the Year

Despite his persuasive declaration in 1983 that he does not intend to die, he spent the better part of 1984 stamping out rumors that he's been dead since August 21, 1983 (later amended to Nov 18 at 2 a.m., in Canada yet). He'll, no doubt, go down in history as the Philippine president most deadset on living.

Juan Ponce Enrile--Mr Nice Guy of the Year

The one politician who emerged squeaky clean from this year's political wringer. Also without stain from the blood on the tarmac. High on Liberation Theology these days, his politics alienate none, insult nobody, and pacify the press, like so: Q: Mr Minister, your policies have been criticized as undemocratic and inhumane. How do you refute these charges? JPE: With wit and charm.

Blas Ople--The Interregnum Man of the Year

Always a bridesmaid, never a bride, Labor Minister Blas Ople might well ask: "Must the stars hide their brilliance, too, beside the moon?" Frustrated presidential hopeful Blas has to learn to croon yet again: "I will wait for you-u-u-u!" if not to keep those deep and heavy words like "interregnum," along with his Bulakeno foot, out of his mouth. They also serve who stand and wait. Alas!

Corazon Agrava--The I-Don't-Care-Girl of the Year

As the indefatigable and exacting chairman of the Fact-Finding Board and weepy but fussy mother to her four Board members, she was receiving a steady stream of fan mail until July 2, 1984 when she raised her voice in song for star witness Imelda Marcos after hearing her testimony. It was sour notes from then on reaching a crescendo when she delivered an earlier and a sepa-

rate (though minority opinion) report to President Marcos that contained a whole section on why Gen Ver "is not a plotter." Boomed when she submitted her report to the people, she uttered the now memorable prose: "I couldn't care less."

Jolly Benitez--Humorist of the Year

His trouble started with a toilet bowl, "the beginning of a core housing program," as he put it. But where was the housing? And by the way, what is the connection of BLISS housing with Dynetics, a computer firm where the Ministry of Human Settlements has invested P33 million? The questions from Opposition MPs have not stopped and have continued to stump the understandably less than Jolly B. No matter if he's generated a spate of toilet humor.

Estelito Mendoza--Untitled (already, too many titles to his name)

At the rate he's gabbing in defense of the indefensible (in the Batasan he sponsored and caused the adoption of new impeachment rules that make President Marcos virtually unimpeachable), he's held the likeliest to succeed Leonardo Perez. However, admirers swear he's well on his way to being the Marcos of his time (if it ever comes). In the meantime, he's minister of justice, solicitor general, governor of Pampanga, member of parliament and Leonardo Perez, Jr.

Leonardo Perez--Batasan Candidate of the Year

Former COMELEC Chairman with an impressive record in managing clean elections (according to him). He won a seat in the Batasan in spite the formidable competition of the well-loved Carlos Padilla of Nueva Vizcaya; in spite the surfacing of "Golden Arm" Francisco Malate who claimed to have forged election returns from the province for Perez; and despite his resounding loss (according to reliable sources, not the COMELEC).

Butz Aquino--Last Year's Brother, This Year's Brother-in-Law of the Year

Last year he gained fame as brother to a hero. This year he is well-tanned from rallies, trim from marches, blase from speeches here and abroad and in-like with politics. His humor made it to the international magazines; his statements are sought after by foreign correspondents. From boycott baby to participation pleaser, back in the graces of sister-in-law Cory, Butz has adjusted to the tempting options of the Right, the Left and the in-between and is thus a possible candidate in 1986 and 1987. Even now he's a "Fast-track" candidate of the Convenor's Group. He's on the right track.

Lupino Lazaro--Fashion Fizzler of the Year--Legal Luminary Category

From oblivion to household word, Lazaro probably gained the most out of case which had everything to lose. He was the throbbing pain in Agrava's neck; the nemesis of Rolando Jimenez and his military clients. How he came to be the Galman counsel is one for the movies or pure Lazaro. He

tells the story that while Ms Galman was in military custody, he tossed a rock wrapped in paper up to her window to offer his services. The rest is histrionics. Still, he's more alley than fat cat even with his celebrity status today. Attracting as much attention was (and is) his wardrobe. Typical attire: yellow suit, orange tie. We may not like his threads but we'll defend his right to wear them.

The Foreign Correspondent--E.T. of the Year

The advent of the Aquino assassination has spawned a peculiar new being in our landscape: the foreign correspondent who may be male or female with his/her own style of parachute journalism, sometimes also called ambush journalism. He/she attended every rally, visited provinces, scaled hills and dales for that exclusive with Kumander Aso, and was the recipient of news leaks leaked to the local press. He/she was even star witness in the Agrava investigations. He was indispensable in other ways. Being the eyes and ears of the world, he was a natural deterrent against violence in rallies. Also, he/she boosted our dollar reserves with his/her spending on taxis, booze, information, hotels, and keen observers (the envious, in other words) say, women (not applicable, as far as known to the female foreign journalists). They are here to stay (mostly at the Manila Hotel) until famine, industrial and natural disasters, revolutions, assassinations or other such bad news lure them to other climes where they usually stay for four days and come away experts.

Rodolfo Jimenez--The Man You Love To Hate of the Year

In every story, there must be a villain. Amidst the euphoria of a nation with a newly-aroused conscience, Jimenez played the Black Knight to the hilt. "Galman did it!" roared he to the end (Is it?) In real life, the man you love to hate is a brilliant lawyer who attracts impossible cases.

The Laughing Lady--Street Parliamentarian of the Year

Next to Chino Roces, a common sight in most rallies is this unknown lady who has developed a following that Blas Ople could well envy. She sings "Bayan Ko" in a clear operatic soprano (eat your heart out, Ms Agrava) and regales passersby with excerpts of the slogans of the parliament of the street. Even in her altered state of mind, she senses something is very wrong which cannot be said of Prime Minister Cesar Virata who when asked about the crises in the country, rhapsodized last June that "They (people) never had it so good." Crazy, man.

CSO: 4200/453

PHILIPPINES

RESEARCH CENTER FORECASTS TOUGH YEAR AHEAD

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 3 Jan 85 pp 3, 6

[Article by Dennis Fetalino]

[Text]

Production would virtually remain constant while rising prices and the further reduction in the purchasing power of the peso would stay throughout most of the New Year, a staff report of the Center for Research and Communication, a private economic think-tank, has indicated.

The CRC paper prepared by senior economist Bernardo C. Villegas has projected that, apart from posting a negative six per cent decline in the

Gross National Product, the Philippines will fall into a "tailspin" even as its neighboring countries gallop at enviable GNP growth rates of from six to 9 per cent per annum.

The paper forecasts that the Philippine economy would, at best, post a one per cent growth, while the rest of the Asean countries would grow at an average of 6.03 per cent in 1985.

The tailend performance of the economy next year comes as a direct result of the foreign debt crisis that was precipitated by the brutal slaying of Opposition leader Benigno Aquino last year, the CRC report said.

While showing the slowest growth rate as compared to the so-called "tiger economies" of Taiwan, Singapore and South Korea, the Philippines will also have the highest inflation rate at 35 per cent, even higher than Indonesia's 10 per cent and the Asian average of 7 per cent.

Government projections, on the other hand, have placed inflation to settle at an annual average of between 20-25 per cent in 1985.

The CRC paper said in short, hard times would continue through-

out the first quarter of 1985.

Other private economists foresee more bankruptcies, layoffs and drastic declines in sales because of shrinking markets and astronomical interest rates of over 40 per cent per annum.

Looking back, Villegas said, "An objective assessment of the foreign exchange crisis would reveal that the Philippines could have survived a debt rescheduling with relative ease if the country had not suffered the political trauma of Aug. 21, 1983."

He pointed to an econometric model developed by one of the CRC economists which showed through statistical simulation what would have happened to the country's foreign debt if Aquino had not been assassinated.

"Even assuming that the \$600-million window-dressing of international reserves would have sooner or later been discovered, the model showed that the IMF and our commercial creditors would have readily agreed to a debt rescheduling that would have minimized the damage to the Philippine economy," the CRC economist said.

Villegas explained that precisely because, as a World Bank report noted "structural reforms had already begun in the early '80s, the balance of payments problem was manageable and could have been in place by year's end."

One only needs to reflect on the tremendous opportunities the Philippines missed by not being able to expand its nontraditional exports to

the booming US economy because of the loss of business confidence and foreign trade paralysis occasioned by the events following the Aquino slaying, he said.

"It is often forgotten that by the end of 1982, a full 60 per cent of Philippine commodity exports was already accounted for by semi-conductors, garments, finished wood products, houseware and giftware, leatherware and footwear, and numerous non-traditional fresh and processed food products," he added.

Villegas also predicted that private sector industry leaders would continue their campaign "to persuade, coax or threaten" the incumbent Administration to foster a more stable and mar-

ket-oriented climate for both local and foreign investors.

"There will be less room for crony capitalism, ill-conceived industrial projects, cost-effective social programs and counter-productive intrusion of the government into the affairs of the private sector," he said.

Short of playing down the communist threat posed by the New People's Army, which is gaining ground in many areas of the south, Villegas said, "the Philippine economy remains basically sound."

He said the economic fundamentals - large domestic market, highly-educated manpower and

competitive wage structures-combined with the new-found commitment of the private sector to campaign for reforms can still create an attractive atmosphere for the entrepreneurial or innovative investors.

"Over the long-run, the domestic market for food products, appliances, pulp and paper, chemicals and other manufactured articles can once again grow at over six per cent per annum as the economy rejoins the newly industrializing countries of the booming Asia Pacific region," Villegas said.

As to when this will actually happen, he did not elaborate.

CSO: 4200/451

PHILIPPINES

PELAEZ ON UNION OF CHURCH-STATE GOALS

Baguio City THE GOLD ORE in English 29 Dec 84 p 3

[Text] "WE SHOULD work for the establishment of a free church and a free state. But both entities can collaborate as independent bodies because they fight common enemies: injustice, poverty, natural disaster."

Former Senator Emmanuel Pelaez made this call to a group of clergymen, educators, students, and social workers at the University of Baguio last December 28 during the 28th National Conference of the Baguio Religious Acculturation Conference.

Pelaez discussed the relationship between religion and politics in the Philippine context. "As a result of the existing separation of church and state, religion has been banned from the curriculum of state schools. This gives rise to national moral bankruptcy because education of the children, millions of whom are graduates of public schools, in tenets of religion have been sacrificed in the

name of American Constitution and principles not relevant to Philippine condition."

He defied the present relationship of the church and state, saying "government leaders should realize that traditional thinking of confining the doctrines of religion to prayers, as exclusive of temporal needs and human rights is outmoded."

"To be relevant, church must reach out to people, seek them in their homes and places of work," Pelaez said.

"Neither should state resent the church admonition to their flock on moral and spiritual aspects of politics, much less to curtail right of the religious to participate on political process," he added.

Efforts of churches and religious leaders to help victims of abuse, persecution and violence to correct social injustices or to call for the reform of unjust social institution have, sadly, been bran-

ded as subversive acts, he said.

He cited the situation in Northern Mindanao wherein clergymen going to the hinterlands of Bukidnon to teach about the dignity of men have been accused of Subversion. "Why should the state resent the church attempt to improve the condition of the people?" Pelaez asked.

As a concrete solution, he called on the audience to urge the Batasan to devise means so that religion and religious values be taught in public schools. "The Batasan has a plenary authority to determine how best religion could be taught upon request of parents as provided in the 1973 Constitution."

In conclusion, Pelaez quoted George Washington: Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that a national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles.* KMT

PHILIPPINES

JAIME ONGPIN INTERVIEWED

Makati MR. & MS. in English 11-17 Jan 85 pp 27-31

[Text] Prior to his militant new role in the parliament of the streets, Harvard-educated Jaime V. Ongpin was known only in haute business circles as president and chief executive officer of Benguet Corporation, and younger brother of Roberto Ongpin, Minister of Trade and Industry.

Such a reputation was not altogether undesirable, for it is no ordinary feat to attain such a premier management position in a gold mining company consistently listed among the country's top 100 business corporations.

But it is the other half of that reputation that has brought a yet different kind of prominence for Younger Brother. Must the Ongpin brothers' sibling rivalry, if it is indeed such, carry over to their professional lives and be heralded by publicity, it has been asked? The first known public quarrel between the brothers centered on Jimmy's disagreement with Bobby's ambitious 11-point Economic Program and the haste and magnanimity with which the government was rescuing financially distressed crony--controlled or--owned companies.

The differences of opinion have not been smoothened out through the years, amidst public speculation that the apparent feud is a sham, that 46-year-old Jimmy has a premeditated hidden agenda up his sleeve, that he himself has political aspirations.

Who is to say what, aside from evident love of country, has brought Ongpin, 1982 Management Man of the Year and 1980 Mining Man of the Year, from his comfortable world of business education, antique trade pottery, Philippine paintings and sculpture, tennis and photography, to the many challenges and even more numerous frustrations of Opposition politics? And as member of the Convenors' Group, as representative of Big Business and chairman of the Board of Manindigan, a fairly young political group that has to shake off its elitist and perfumed image, Jimmy Ongpin, the Opposition figure is well-entrenched in this, his other image. But, he sets the record straight, long before any organized boycott was mounted against a privileged department store, he and his wife had resolved not to contribute a centavo to its income.

Over a far too leisurely lunch that he himself had to cut short at 3 p.m. "because I have to earn a living," Ongpin the epitome of business success made more snobbish because it is an old wealth-to-more wealth story, the critical younger brother, and the convenor expressed his views on the day's many uncertainties. The topic--the Philippine situation--may not have been pleasant, but the ambience made up for it for Ongpin and his invited guests, nine WOMEN (Women in Media Now) members. Lunch was at the sleekly elegant Executive Lounge of the Benguet Centre off Ortigas Avenue, overlooking an unbelievably modern and progressively developed landscape in Third world country.

Throughout the two and a half hours of conversation, Ongpin confessed he was awaiting an embarrassing question that was never asked. No, it was not why one could only be received by him after being escorted on every floor by a different uniformed security personnel. Neither was it the query whether there was any basis for the reputation of arrogance of the Ongpin brothers.

Surely, it must be this, then: Does the Kokoy Romualdez-owned First Philippine Holdings own majority stocks in Benguet?

How far will he pursue the causes he espouses these days? Will he too, like all others with interests to protect, flee when such assets are in jeopardy? Ongpin says, "I carry all my assets in my head."

Excerpts from the interview follow.

Neni Sta. Romana-Cruz

Q: Does the release of the IMF loan mean normal days ahead?

A: It is presumptuous to say that the IMF release is a seal of good house-keeping. I think if we look at the program...it is probably the toughest that IMF has imposed. It is a reflection of the lack of credibility of the government and the lack of confidence of IMF and its officials in the Philippines. That is partly our own fault. Once you lie to your bankers, "ibang usapan na" (that's a different thing), the basis for believing what numbers you submit and assessment you make is eroded. That is practically a monthly report card you have to submit and if they fail to comply with anything, the subsequent batches (of release) will be suspended.

You know, people are putting too much stock on the IMF program and the impact it is supposed to have on the economy. They are also putting too much stock on the potential benefits that the program will have with respect to the economy. Personally, I have great reservations about the program and I think the requirements are too harsh and unsustainable...The interest rates are on such unsustainable levels and unless something is done to bring them down, even the strong companies we have which have survived the crisis will not be able to function because no business can afford to pay over 50% of working capital....

The IMF program as presently implemented is geared to suit the convenience of the lenders and the banks in particular rather than promote the recovery of the economy of the Filipino people. Rather than promote, it will retard the recovery. It is far too harsh.

...You are dealing with an economy that has been chronically ill since the post-war period started. They are talking about creating a positive rate of interest earnings. I have not seen any statistics to support the claim that there has been a positive rate of interest earnings in this country for any sustained length of time...From what they are saying, this problem is being cured overnight. The medicine they are dispensing--a high interest rate to keep foreign exchange rate under control--is far too harsh and cannot be sustained because of the debilitated condition of the economy.

It is just like treating a patient that has been sick for a long time and has been in crisis for the last year. You have to allow him a little bit of time to recuperate before you submit the patient to shock treatment. I hope the Central Bank will back off a little.

I think they are trying to bludgeon the economy and in the process I think they could cause permanent damage in terms of weakening the few remaining stable businesses. And if the commercial banks are not able to collect you are starting a domino effect. I think half of the commercial banks are almost in an illiquid condition including the PNB and if they aggravate the situation, you are going to create a pandemonium.

We have not been able to negotiate from a position of strength and it is not Jobo's fault...How can you tell the banks, please believe us this time?

Our hands and our feet have been hogtied. The problem is we have a government that has no credibility. If there was a change in government and a credible administrator, we could go to the lenders and negotiate for a far more reasonable terms...We are dealing with a fundamental problem of credibility and this cannot be changed unless there is a fundamental change in personalities.

Q: But the IMF itself imposed stiff conditions.

A: Yes, but people tend to blame the IMF and multinationals over and over again. Multinationals are nothing more than rational investors and IMF is nothing more than a bank. They will treat us according to the way we behave. If you are a borrower, and have borrowed \$26 B from that bank and other banks and then wasted the money and then they ask you how much you have left in the reserves and you lie to them. Then you have to go back to say you need more money to keep your system going. How will they treat you? Of course in the harshest possible way. That is what happened to us, we misbehaved. We have not acted as responsible borrowers.

Q: What should we do if given another loan?

A: I don't want another chance. I don't want to see another loan. We have gotten this way because we are trying to accelerate the phase of our development and for about 10 or 12 years we created this mirage that the Philippines was progressing so rapidly. But this was all created by overborrowing which we cannot afford to service. If we took all those money into productive investment like Taiwan and Korea, there will be no problem, but we will be able to service our loans. But we have already wasted \$26B loan, at least most of it. I don't want this country to borrow one more penny.

Q: Are you saying we can be totally self-reliant?

A: Let us not try to compete with Korea and Taiwan. We can be industrialized if we build the proper foundation. A great deal of what is wrong with us is that we put our industrial cart before our agricultural horse. We built our industrial castle with sand. In order to be able to be competitive industrially, you must have economy of scale. 52 million Filipinos are a terrific consumer base, but they do not have purchasing power and 75% of them can barely subsist and buy their meals. Our export-oriented policy is not all wrong. The priority is wrong--we decided to build copper smelter and steel mills and all these "kalokohans" (craziness) before we have a domestic base.

Q: What does all this mean for the ordinary man in the street?

A: Well, his share of the foreign debt is \$500 and at some point in time, it has to be paid back.

Q: What would you do with all the misbehaving cronies and politicians, granting that you have the power to...

A: You apply the law. First you change the law protecting public official from suits. You do what Alfonsin did in Argentina. First you throw out that immunity clause and rewrite the Constitution then make them accountable under the law for what they have done, because they have committed economic crimes. If you never do that you will never solve the problem because the value you will be imposing is that you can get away with it and you have to prove that you cannot get away with it.

Q: Can you separate politics from economics?

A: I submit that you cannot solve economic problems unless you first solve political problems.

Fundamentally, investments whether from Filipinos who have capital stocks abroad or from foreigners who would like to come to this country, are not going to be mobilized or actually invested in the Philippines unless you have a change in ground rules. Right now with Amendment 6, one can literally take away your investment as what has been done in the coconut and sugar industries where by virtue of a number of decrees, literally people's investments have been wiped out against their will. If those will continue to be the ground rules, I don't think anybody in his right mind will take away his money

from the bank to invest in this kind of environment. Right now you have to find a crony to whisper in the President's ears to sign a piece of paper. The President is dreaming when he speaks of a 10% GNP. That statement is a reflection of the fact that he has no clear understanding of how the economy functions.

Q: What is the Convenor Group hoping to achieve?

A: What it is trying to promote is simply a contingency plan. Our concern is that with the state of health of the President, he might not last until 1987. And if people don't start discussing ahead of time, what needs to be done in the event that you have a sudden presidential election, that are only 70 days available. Once the clock starts ticking, you are going to spend all the time arguing about procedures. There will be no time to campaign. These emergency procedures are to be distinguished from the efforts of the Batasan Opposition to the regular elections of '86 and '87. There is no incompatibility between the two. But there has been a lot of misunderstanding because efforts of the convenors group which are not supposed to be publicized somehow got into the hands of the press and have been prematurely publicized.

Q: How did you react to the comment about your participation in the Convenor Group as a business person and the constituency you represent?

A: I don't claim to represent any constituency. I'm there in my individual capacity. I was invited (to join), I tried to decline and was prevailed upon by Cory and Tanny. We were all invited by people who initiated this move. Individuals are of like mind who had been talking about this off and on since the last elections. I know the idea of a contingency plan was first broached to me then...They have gone to a series of discussion with various people in business, they have talked to people in politics, in the activist movement and the consensus was that something ought to be done. And so various scenarios were drafted and then ultimately it was decided that people like Cory and me ought to be invited to consider convening the candidates themselves.

I think it has been speculated that I had a great deal to do with it than in fact I did when in fact I was not even here. When most of this took place, I was abroad all of October virtually and when I came back in November, I was invited to a meeting where Tanny and Cory were and we were seeing the draft for the first time and we read it and we liked what we saw. Nobody will question why Cory or Tanada was there. Obviously, I am the stranger to politics...But they said it was important to have someone from the business sector who could try to communicate to the business sector what this was all about. So reluctantly I agreed.

Q: Are the initiators of the Convenor Group mostly businessmen?

A: No, they are educators, professionals, businessmen--Noel Soriano, Ramon del Rosario, Fr. Bernas, Dr. Alran Bengzon, Ricardo Lopa. Some of them are in Manindigan, not all of them, but these are people acting in their individual capacities who are concerned about the problem and have taken it upon themselves to exercise the initiative. But it is not a conspiracy of any sort.

Q: Do you really think when the time comes these people (in the Convenor Group) will be able to agree on one single candidate?

A: Obviously I do, otherwise I wouldn't be engaged in the exercise. Everybody hopes that a compromise can be reached. Otherwise, why are we wasting out time?

Q: Wouldn't the danger of that be that you will be choosing a candidate who would be just that, a compromise and not necessarily one who will be most qualified, most able to lead this country?

A: The alternative is to let them all run and lose to the KBL. We are trying to make the best, of what is potentially a very divisive situation.

Q: As a convenor, the stance you took on May 14 has also been under scrutiny.

A: I spent the whole day in the Vergara Polling Center in San Juan which was the only place where Neptali Gonzales lost. But at least he was not completely shut out.

Q: Some people have said that the Convenor Group has become doubly acceptable because of Cory.

A: There is no question that Cory plays a central role in the whole thing. For if she did not use her influence to convene the original meeting some of the nominees might have been reluctant to attend. She called each of them...

Q: Are you willing to legalize the Communist Party in the Philippines?

A: How can you avoid doing that when they are now part of the environment? The choice is to continue shooting them and you can look at the experience of Marcos, that doesn't work. It aggravates the problem.

Q: But you are going to ask them to lay down their arms?

A: (Lauching) Clearly one side has to stop shooting if you are going to start a conversation. Number one debated point is whether they want to be legalized. If you offer to legalize them then they will have to abide by the rule of the Constitution and compete in non-violence fashion in the market. If you truly believe in democratic principles, you cannot deny any ideology or any other kind of opportunity to compete in the market place of ideas.

Q: Do you see any role for the Communist Party in the event of a change in national leadership?

A: I see the role that they are presently playing and I hope that if they agree to be legalized they will modify that role and accept the non-violent set of ground rules so that they can go about leading their candidates for office. If they are meritorious they can get elected, then we can have a CP

representative in the Batasan as they do in most countries of the world except the U.S.

Q: Is the Manindigan a red scare group?

A: I don't feel a red scare per se. The Communist ideology is not attractive to Filipinos. The ordinary Filipino is not a Bolshevik at heart. He is a peace-loving individual who wants to eat three meals a day in the comfort of his home.

Q: Why is it necessary for a group like the Manindigan to emerge in the presence of many other existing groups?

A: For a variety of reasons. There is the need for a more formal structure and a lasting one. One that is able to coordinate a broader effort, because many of the ad hoc groups that have mushroomed since August last year tend to be narrow in focus and some of them already began to splinter and to disintegrate. Manindigan hopes to provide a permanent venue transcending even the Marcos administration towards political involvement for people who want to be more politically active and yet do not want to do it through the traditional political parties.

Q: When you speak of faith in General Ramos, does that mean you have faith in the entire military system?

A: I have some reservations with the way it is presently structured, simply because we have so many overstaying generals who have been retained on the basis of loyalty and not necessarily on the basis of competence. But I think that if Gen. Ramos is allowed to prevail, that is one of the things he wants to correct.

Q: In the change of personalities in the leadership of the country, do you think Gen. Ramos should be retained in the military?

A: I have confidence in the integrity and professionalism of Gen. Ramos and I suppose there are lots of people in the army who are equally competent and who have the same commitment to professionalism. Ramos himself has said repeatedly he should be retired to give room for the rest of the people who are up and coming and who have qualities to exercise leadership...

Q: Don't you think Ramos is just an extension of the President?

A: No, I don't think so. As he himself said, his first loyalty is to the Constitution and to his own, as it should be with everyone of them. But that is not necessarily the same for everyone.

I don't know Gen. Ramos well, I met him twice in the Cardinal's residence because he is in this board (of judges) trying to overhaul the TOYM of the Jaycees. I was impressed by the way he conducted himself. He did not try to act like a general. He is not arrogant. He knows how to listen. He has a

very fine reputation on the whole. I have asked people who used to be in the military, people still in the military and consistently, 99% of people I have asked have a very high regard for him.

Q: What should the participation of multinationals be in our efforts at self-reliance?

A: I would encourage as much of it as is consistent with our priorities. If they want to invest their capital in areas that had been identified as requiring foreign capital, I would place no limits on it. You know you need more foreign capital to develop the economy or that we have or can generate in foreign savings. This hang-up about multinationals being people who are conspiring to control the world is somebody's nightmare. I have worked with multinational companies. My first job was with Proctor and Gamble for three years. I have worked for multinationals in the States. I know them from the inside out. These are people trying to make a legitimate profit but of course there is some abuse in this country particularly...It is up to the host country to police that and to control it. If the host country is either stupid or corrupt and they permit this thing to happen because they are incompetent or they have been bribed, I think it is wrong to pin that blame on multinationals exclusively because the host country is equally guilty. I think it is wrong to take the attitude that multinationals are in a conspiracy to exploit the less developed world. That is something I don't buy.

How much confidence do we have in our ability to govern ourselves and to safeguard our interests. I subscribe to the theory that if you have a competent and an honest national leader, he will set the whole tone. Now we have not had that, so we had had all sorts of problems.

Q: What is your info on the President's health?

A: I have none other than what is in the papers which I don't believe.

Q: Is your brother totally incommunicado?

A: Not generally, I see him once a year. At Christmas, we set aside our differences and we don't talk politics. I did see him in November for my father's birthday and my mother asked him, "But Bobby, why is your hair turning all gray?" And he looked at me and said, "Because this guy is giving me so many problems."

But there are honest differences of opinion and I don't want to exacerbate them and neither does he. He is a different person, so we don't discuss business when we're together.

Q: You have been critical about Marcos' economic policies. But your brother is his economic adviser?

A: Who said that he knows his economics? If you look at his track record, he went into office prompting the 11 basic industrial projects. Many people have

always questioned those priorities. Certainly I questioned those. You cannot create an industrial super structure unless you have a market base. You cannot create a market base until we provide a sufficient level of income to the people in the countryside where 70% of our population is...If you don't solve that problem we will never solve our economic problem. We are trying to build a skyscraper, "hindi pa tayo naghuhukay ng pundasyon, Hindi puwede yan." (We have not dug our foundation. That cannot be.)

Q: We hear that your brother's economic advice is heeded more than even Mister Virata's.

A: I think he has Marcos' ear. He is a very persuasive character.

Q: Many people from the press refer to the Ongpin brother as the arrogant Ongpin brothers. Is this justified?

A: Speaking for myself, I try not to be arrogant, I don't know if I succeed. You will have to ask him.

CSO: 4200/478

PHILIPPINES

FILIPINO JUDGE DISQUALIFIES SELF IN AQUINO TRIAL

OW290405 Tokyo KYODO in English 0022 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Manila, 28 Jan (KYODO)--A judge Monday disqualified himself from trying the alleged assassins of opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino because he is related by marriage to the highest ranking of the accused military plotters.

Just hours before starting to hear arguments on whether 17 officers and men should be held in civilian prison or in military custody, Justice Conrado Molina removed himself as one of the three judges for the trial, expected to last about a year.

The judge said his late elder brother's daughter was married last February to the son of Brig Gen Luther Custodio, the highest ranked among the 17 military men charged as principals in the shooting of Aquino at Manila Airport on 21 August 1983. Two higher ranked generals, including Chief of Staff Gen Fabian Ver, were charged as accessories.

The trial is set to start Friday, but the court announced Monday it would meet Tuesday to hear applications by the military that the 17, not eligible for bail, be kept in military custody instead of in civilian national penitentiary.

The designation of another judge to complete the three-man bench is expected to be an administrative decision by Justice Manuel Pamaran, who presides over the nine-judge court that specializes in cases involving misuse of public office.

CSO: 4200/470

PHILIPPINES

ECONOMIST PROPOSES COALITION GOVERNMENT INCLUDING NPA

HK301006 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Report read in English]

[Text] On the U.S. intervention in the communist insurgency, including U.S. aid to the Philippine Government, this may lead the communist rebels here to seek military assistance from socialist countries similar to what happened in Lebanon and Vietnam. This is according to Mr Alejandro Lichauco, a prominent Filipino economist in a speech prepared for delivery next week before a group of provincial and local clubs. To prevent direct U.S. intervention and a possible counter intervention of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in our government, Mr Lichauco proposed the setting up of a coalition government to be composed of delegates from the national assembly, certain cause-oriented groups, and the reorganized armed forces of the Communist Party, the New People's Army, the southern Muslim rebellion, and major political parties. If the government is to govern for 3 years and prepare the country for general elections, it can negotiate agreements with the other powers in order to neutralize and overcome U.S. aggression in the Philippines by asking socialist nations for support.

CSO: 4211/32

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

HOSPITAL FOR 'REBEL RETURNEES'--A hospital for rebel returnees will be built by the Ministry of Health (MOH) in Tipo-Tipo, Basilan. The hospital will have a 10-bed capacity and secondary level or surgical capability. The hospital is expected to provide free medical services to some 1,500 rebel returnees, their families and other residents near Tipo-Tipo. It will supplement existing hospital services in the towns of Isabel a and Lamitan, Basilan. Health Minister Jesus Azurin said about P750,000 has been released by the Office of Budget and Management for the construction of the hospital. The hospital was reportedly requested by representatives of rebel returnees in a meeting with defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile. Meanwhile, regulations governing private hospitals, which are provided P50 per bed per day for the use of indigent patients, has been liberalized to allow more private hospitals to avail themselves of the subsidy. About P7.5 million has been allotted for the support of 150,000 bed-days in private hospitals this year. Each of the qualified hospitals will set aside not more than 10 beds for the confinement of indigents. [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Jan 85 p 6]

MARCOS CONGRATULATES SINGAPORE'S LEE--President Marcos congratulated Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew yesterday on his party's victory in the recent parliamentary elections and his continued leadership. The President sent his congratulatory message to the Singaporean leader who was sworn in prime minister Wednesday. Reappointed for the fifth straight time in the general elections on Dec 22, Lee said he had no idea that he was to remain prime minister for so long when he presented his first Cabinet in 1959 to be sworn in. Lee's People's Action Party (PAP) was assured of control of all but two seats in a 79-member legislature in the last general elections in which 49 seats were contested. The President told Lee: "The Filipino people join me in congratulating you on your party's victory in the parliamentary election and your continued leadership in Singapore. "The fresh mandate you have received ensures the continued stability of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and consequently, in the light of the interdependence of nations, the world in general." [Texg] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Jan 85 p 6]

AGRICULTURE SHIFT FROM SUGAR--Some 40,000 hectares of sugar lands are expected to be planted to other crops in the next three to four years because of expectations that the export price of sugar will remain depressed, Agriculture and Food Minister Salvador Escudero said yesterday. He said an increasing number of sugar producers have started planting other crops like yellow corn and cassava. But the shift to the production of other crops will likely be accelerated only after sugar producers have seen the financial results of their production of other crops, he said. He said many sugar producers have adopted a "wait-and-see" attitude before going into the production of other crops, aside from sugar. Escudero said there is no way for sugar producers to make money from their operations if their produce will be sold in the export market at a depressed price of 3.5 cents a pound as against their production cost of 12 to 14 cents a pound.
[Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Jan 85 p 13]

SECURITY PLAN FOR CITIES--Acting AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Fidel Ramos has submitted to higher authorities a proposal setting up an integrated security plan for every city and town throughout the country. He said the plan is designed to protect and secure population centers, public utilities, and vital installations from dissident attacks and atrocities. At the same time, General Ramos stressed the need to intensify development efforts by the government, especially in rebel-infested areas. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 28 Jan 85]

OFFICIALS TO ATTEND WW II EVENT--Manila will celebrate its 40th anniversary of liberation from the Japanese forces on 3 February. About 400 Filipino, American, and Japanese veterans have been invited to attend the celebration. The ceremonies will start with a thanksgiving Mass at the University of Santo Tomas, to be followed by wreath-laying rites at the Rizal Park. President Marcos and the First Lady have been invited to grace the occasion. Other guests expected to attend the commemoration program are former Foreign Affairs Minister Carlos P. Romulo, U.S. Ambassador Stephen Bosworth, Japanese Ambassador Yoshio Okawa, and acting Chief of Staff Lt Gen Fidel Ramos. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 29 Jan 85]

PC-INP RECOM 7 REORGANIZATION--The reorganization of certain top posts in the PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary--Integrated National Police] Recom [Regional Command] 7 is expected to take place next week. This was stated by Regional Commander Brig Gen Alfredo Olano, who said he expects to receive a directive from acting AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Fidel Ramos regarding the reassignment of some officials. Six officials are scheduled to return to Manila to take up advanced military training at the national headquarters. The course will take 6-7 months. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 1 Feb 85 HK]

PARTY CAUCUS ON COUNTERINSURGENCY--President Marcos said yesterday [1 February] he will call a party caucus early next week to discuss ways and means of making the PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] and the Civilian Home Defense Forces [CHDF] more effective in the fight against insurgency. He told local executives from Negros and Mindanao that he should call a party caucus early next week. The local executives briefed the president on the peace and order situation in their respective jurisdictions and made suggestions on the proper operations of the CHDF and police forces in combatting insurgency. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 1 Feb 85 HK]

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR THIRD WORLD PEACE EFFORT--President Marcos yesterday [3 February] called on the Third World countries to form a worldwide effort for peace and exert pressure on the United States and the Soviet Union to end the nuclear arms race. The president said the voice of small nations may not be sufficient to cause a radical change in U.S. and Soviet defense policies. However he said the small nations believe they are not alone in the clamor for an end to the arms race. He made the call in a speech read for him by Speaker Nicanor Yniguez at yesterday's commemoration of the 40th anniversary of Manila's liberation from the Japanese forces during the Pacific war. Filipino, American, and Japanese veterans of the war graced the occasion. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 3 Feb 85 HK]

CSO: 4200/484

THAILAND

PAPER ON UN, U.S. INDIFFERENCE TOWARD REFUGEES

BK011404 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 30 Jan 85 p 5

[Column by Pleo Si-ngoen: "City of Saints"]

[Text] Because of the word "humanitarianism," Thailand stands to suffer forever from that for which it has never been responsible. The Cambodia, Lao, and Vietnamese refugees will remain a problem for Thailand--a thorn in its side and a burden for its future.

The Cambodian, Lao, and Vietnamese refugee camps in Thailand have become a new kind of tourist attraction. The tour programs of visitors to Thailand include the refugee camps along with the temple of the emerald buddha, Ayutthaya, the ancient city, and Nakhon Pathom. Has the tourism authority of Thailand never thought of making money from those places of misery?

Visitors to those places would all say the same thing: Thailand is the most kind and humanitarian country in the world as it is giving shelter to about a million displaced people. Thailand should beam with pride. Who can know how great its loss is.

A few days ago, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who was visiting Thailand, was taken to visit the refugee camps in Prachin Buri--at Khao I-Dang, Bang Pu, and Ban Ang Sila, where hundreds of thousands of refugees are crowded. Perez de Cuellar said he had visited the refugee camps 4 years ago and on the current visit he was surprised to see that the Cambodian people still remain in the same state of affliction, as they have for more than 5 years now. He said he would do everything possible to end the problem.

Those words uttered, Perez de Cuellar returned to face other world problems in his capacity as the UN secretary general, leaving the Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Lao refugees to struggle alone with their problem, and leaving Thailand, who acts like a rich man, to suffer with its heavy burden.

The problem of refugees taking shelter in Thailand is known the world over. But others know how to save themselves from the trouble and they prefer to toss over aid money rather than to accept people for resettlement in their countries. It now seems that the last sum of \$4.5 million donated as relief aid for the refugees who are bidding their time in Thailand, eating, sleeping, and producing

offspring, will be used up next month, and still it is not known how the wealthy-looking man [meaning Thailand] will cope with the problem.

Thailand did not cause the problem in Indochina. It was the United States who created the problem and who left, after its defeat, in the middle of the confusion that plagued Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. The culprit is not bothered at all. But Thailand, who gained nothing from the war, is now suffering from the consequences.

It is easy to let the refugees enter the country, but so difficult to make them leave. There are hundreds of thousands of them now, of many races, of many nationalities. Thai territory will be partitioned and given to the people who are now taking shelter for occupation in the future; this is inevitable. There are examples--the Vietnamese refugees who arrived during the time of Gia Long and Dien Bien Phu. What could Thailand do with them? They are now about to get certificates acknowledging them as 100-percent Thai citizens.

Lord Buddha said more than 2,528 years ago that making merit is good, but one should not go beyond one's limit. What I am saying today is nothing but taking an old issue up for review because I can no longer stand Mr Perez de Cuellar's attitude of indifference toward the Cambodian problem while he pays lip service to it.

CSO: 4207/120

THAILAND

VOFA VIEWS DISENCHANTMENT OF UNESCO MEMBERS

BK301003 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Station "article": "UNESCO, a Lesson for International Organizations"]

[Excerpts] Thailand has been supporting UNESCO operations and projects. Thailand pays about \$137,880 in annual fee to the organization while UNESCO has allotted \$225,348 to Thailand under the 1984-1985 budget for research and study projects on educational, scientific, and cultural development. Commenting on the U.S. pullout from the organization, Education Minister Chuan Likphai said he believed the move would have an impact on UNESCO assistance to Thailand in the future. Thailand respects the U.S. right to make such a decision, although it is to be hoped that the United States will review its stand and consider rejoining. He meanwhile appealed to member countries to seriously cooperate in solving the problems of UNESCO.

The U.S. decision to pull out from UNESCO, followed by the United Kingdom and Singapore, should serve as a good lesson to other international organizations which have become political forums for developing and pro-communist socialist countries. Those countries should realize that certain member countries' patience is running out and that from now on the majority cannot expect always to get what they want as in the past. This is not peculiar to UNESCO. At the recent 39th session of the UN General Assembly, many developed countries, particularly the United States, reacted strongly to the use of the majority vote to manipulate what the bloc of developing countries or the pro-communist socialist countries want. An example of this is the approval for construction of an expensive conference center in Addis Ababa at a time when Ethiopia is facing a serious famine. The United States, Britain, and the Netherlands voted against the project and refused to provide financial support. Another example is the effort by developing countries to avoid a vote on the draft proposal of the Group of 77 proposing a ratio for financial contributions by UN member countries. This was left in abeyance. This shows that majority votes mean nothing if there is no financial backing for the projects. After the United States, Britain, and Singapore, no one knows which countries may follow suit. The future of UNESCO, which gets only 17 percent of its budget from the Soviet Union, remains to be seen.

CSO: 4207/120

THAILAND

VOFA VIEWS PRC RELATIONS WITH ASEAN COUNTRIES

BK291513 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 28 Jan 85

["News in Perspective" feature: "Improved Relations Between ASEAN and China"]

[Text] A recent flurry of diplomatic visits and trade talks between China and Southeast Asia nations marks progress in China's campaign to improve ties with its noncommunist neighbors, perpetuates the trading prospects with members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and shares opposition to Vietnam's military presence in Kampuchea [words indistinct] particularly ASEAN's objection to China's moral support for communist insurgents.

Early normalization of diplomatic relations with Indonesia is unlikely. Indonesia froze relations with Beijing in 1967 following an allegedly Chinese-backed communist coup attempt in 1965. Malaysia has state-to-state ties to China but refuses people-to-people contact on the grounds that it could lead to communist infiltration. Singapore has yet to establish diplomatic ties with China out of deference to its neighbors concerns that the island republic has the highest trade with China of any ASEAN nation some \$1.45 billion in the first 11 months of last year. (?Direct] red Chinese-Indonesian trade would be a first step toward eventual normalization of diplomatic relations. Trade experts in Beijing said they believe Jakarta initiated trade talks in Singapore earlier this month for economic rather than political reasons.

Indonesian businessmen wishing to trade with China must at present go through middlemen in Thailand, Singapore or Hong Kong. Trade experts said that Indonesia seeks to sell China timber, petroleum, and iron. Chinese officials have made it clear that they will accept ties at whatever level Indonesia offers. Shared opposition to Vietnamese military presence in Cambodia has provided China an opportunity to strengthen ties with ASEAN members, especially Thailand.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian announced in Bangkok this week that Chinese President Li Xiannian is to make an official visit to Thailand in March. Thai officials in Beijing regularly brief (?the) Chinese about development on the Thai-Cambodian border, where Vietnam has launched a fierce dry-season offensive against Cambodian guerrillas. The Chinese have pledged not to aid the Communist Party of Thailand or interfere in Thailand's internal affairs. China now encourages Southeast Asian communists and former communists who once sought refuge in China to go elsewhere. Of some 200 Thai communists formerly in Yunnan, southwestern China, only 50 remain. Most of the others have returned to Thailand under government amnesty.

THAILAND

OFFICER REPORTS SITUATION ALONG MALAYSIAN BORDER

BK290542 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 27 Jan 85

["Report on Situation Along the Thai-Malaysian Border" given by Colonel Suthep Thepsutha, commander of the General Border Office of the Joint Operations Center, Supreme Command Headquarters--date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] The PULO [Pattani United Liberation Organization] movement has been continuously sending armed elements, especially saboteur units, to carry out operations in Thai territory, in order to back up the forces that operate there. However, there is still no armed operation. The movement carries out only political activities in some areas, such as Tambon Po Teng and Tambon Kron of Muang District, and Tambon Betong and Tambon Aiweng of Betong District, Yala Province.

The BN [Barisan Nasional] movement: This group of BN guerrillas has been active in collecting protection fees from business owners in its sphere of influence. It resorts to tough measures to retaliate against those who do not cooperate with it. It launches propaganda to recruit more members. It has also reshuffled its executive committee to wipe out conflicts within the movement.

Regarding the activities of the southern separatists, on 1 November 1984 the leader of the PULO saboteur unit sent 40 men from the unit and PULO armed forces who had received military training abroad, from Kelantan State of Malaysia into Thailand through Ban Wakapsipu, Waeng District, Narathiwat Province. They grouped at Karubi range, Ban Karubi, Tambon Sako, Sungai Padi District, Narathiwat Province. They split into groups of 10, 13, and 17 to carry out operations in Pattani, Yala, and Narathiwat Provinces, respectively.

CSO: 4207/120

THAILAND

OFFICIAL NOTES DEMISE OF SOUTHERN SEPARATISTS

BK290339 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Major General Wanchai Chitchamnong, 4th Army Region commander, yesterday gave an interview to a newsman of TV Channel 10 in Hat Yai District about the activities of communist insurgents, southern separatists, and guerrillas of the Communist Party of Malaya. He said:

[Begin Wanchai recording] Let us talk about the insurgents separately. First, the communist insurgents. They are now defeated both in the political and military fields, and from the national level to the local level. They are in a period of stumbling and defeat, and are scattered everywhere. The number of communist insurgents has decreased from 4,000 at one time to no more than 300 now. They are in a state of being utterly routed. They are not operating as organized units but in scattered groups, causing plight for people in the south. They plunder, collect ransom, and collect fees from contraband ores and wood. There is now a new term calling them illegal earnings terrorists, not communist terrorists.

As for the problem of southern separatists, I think the southern people or Muslims in the five southern provinces now understand government policies. They understand that they are Thai. The problem of secessionism has now basically disappeared. Those people do not care any more about secessionism. They understand the teaching of Prophet Mohammad that Muslims are the population of where they were given birth. As a result, Thai Muslims in the southern part of Thailand will continue to live in Thailand. Concerning the situation in the south, social injustice is a thing of the past. The problem is solved.
[end recording]

CSO: 4207/120

THAILAND

U.S. AMBASSADOR SEEN AS 'EXCESSIVELY MEDDLESOME'

BK301440 Bangkok WIWAT in Thai 26 Jan-1 Feb 85 pp 10-13

[Article: "The Change of U.S. Ambassador to Thailand; the New Posture of the King of Eagles"]

[Text] A department director general of the Thai Foreign Ministry told WIWAT: "Ambassador Dean has been excessively meddlesome in Thailand," adding that this is one of the reasons why he will soon be transferred to India.

John Gunther Dean, U.S. ambassador to Thailand, took office in Thailand on Friday 16 October 1981, succeeding former Ambassador Morton Abramowitz, who completed his term here in July of the same year. He is a career diplomat who previously served as U.S. ambassador to many countries, such as Denmark and Cambodia. In fact, he was the last U.S. ambassador to Cambodia before that country fell into the communist hands. He was also stationed in Lebanon during the height of the fighting between the Christian and Muslim factions. He is normally sent to countries in crisis.

International-Level Meddler

From the time he took office in Thailand until 1983, Dean hardly played any role in Thai politics, probably because the government was then quite stable. In particular, General Athit Kamlang-ek, the "political successor" of General Prem Tinsulanon, had not yet thought of competing with the latter. In 1983, the repercussions of the official 18 percent curb on the expansion of commercial bank credits were exploited by the armed forces to muster political support for their effort to push Gen Athit to the political summit. With the government being criticized for its handling of economic problems, the military prepared to join hands with the opposition Chat Thai Party in a bid to topple the government. Gen Prem was at that time under heavy pressure.

In mid 1984, Dean began to play a role "supportive" [UM] to the Prem government by hailing Gen Prem's ability to supervise his government and solve the country's economic problems. Later, a political crisis erupted when the military called for the extension of Gen Athit's army term and the Chat Thai Party, with the military's support, tried to open a no-confidence debate against the government. But the opposition's plan was aborted by Gen Prem's ailment. Dean rushed to visit Prem and arranged a trip for him for medical treatment. This indicated

full U.S. support for Prem. When the government announced the baht devaluation in November 1984, Dean lobbied for President Reagan's support for the government's decision.

Moreover, during every political crisis Dean secretly visited the prime minister's Sisao residence and sought help for Prem. He also maintains regular contacts with the Thai military's top brass, including Army Deputy Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Chawalit Yongchaiyut and 1st Army Region Commander Phichit Kunlawanit.

The Transfer Is Ordered or Made at His Request?

On 13 January 1984 [year as published], London BBC reported in its evening news program that U.S. Ambassador John Gunther Dean had campaigned for a transfer from Thailand to New Delhi.

Later NEW YORK TIMES and U.S. HERALD TRIBUNE resounded the BBC report. However, a Thai English-language newspaper said that Dean had not requested a transfer but was stabbed in the back and is suffering severe pain.

A high-level political source told WIWAT that Dean's case has attracted much attention among Bangkok's diplomatic circles and that it is thought that Dean was ordered to leave Bangkok since he has never told anyone that he would make such a request when his term expires, as he is entitled to do.

His playing a role of a "archmeddler" is believed to be the cause of his transfer. Under such circumstances in Bangkok, the U.S. diplomat could have remained neutral, thus winning admiration from both rivaling parties and better serving U.S. interests.

Dean is thought to have lost his credibility with the military when he fully "sided" with Prem. A Thai general who is a Prem supporter told WIWAT that although Dean supports the government, he has also created many problems.

Asked about Dean's transfer, many military officers replied: "That is good."

A high-level official of the Protocol Department confirmed to WIWAT that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs William Brown, who quietly visited Thailand and secretly met with Thai military officers late last year, will succeed John Gunther Dean.

Thailand and the New U.S. Ambassador

Although the change of U.S. ambassador to Thailand was designed to erase the image of the United States "supporting" any particular individual, it should not be construed to mean that the armed forces have gained the upper hand. It is believed that U.S. policy toward Thailand remains unchanged. The United States will continue to support a democratic civilian government.

A high-level official in the Political Department said: "The United States has never changed its policy toward Asia. It has confidence in and is

satisfied with the present balance of power with its military bases in the Philippines. As for whether Marcos stays or goes, the United States is sure that the opposition will need its support to topple the Marcos government, which means that the United States would still be able to keep its military bases in that country. For this reason, the Thai Foreign Ministry has never been approached by the United States on the issue of setting up reserve military bases in Thailand. The United States has no need to please the military. But it will not openly 'support' any particular person."

Therefore, during the next 3-year term of the new U.S. ambassador to Thailand, there will probably be no change. However, the style of the U.S. support for democratic government might change somewhat.

CSO: 4207/120

THAILAND

NEXT U.S. ENVOY EXPECTED TO BE LESS 'MEDDLESOME'

BK020558 Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 30 Jan 85 p 6

[Article by Suwit Nantawetchakun: "Does a Change of the U.S. Ambassador to Thailand Affect the Situation?"]

[Text] A reshuffle in the government or the private sector has repercussions on policy. Whoever the replacement may be, he will make some changes lest he be thought of as lacking authority.

It is normal for there to be changes or reshuffles at the national level to suit the situation prevailing in the region or continent where the country is located, and there have been changes in Thailand which could be considered very important. Although at times Thailand may not have had anything to do with the other country, because it is the "big brother" of the free world we need its assistance on some occasions in the conduct of our foreign policy.

John Gunther Dean, the U.S. ambassador to Thailand, replaced Morton I. Abramowitz in 1981 when the latter completed his term here. Dean is a career diplomat and has served in many countries. He was the last U.S. ambassador to Phnom Penh before Cambodia fell to the communists. He later came to Thailand to serve as U.S. ambassador. Moreover, Dean served in many countries in times of crisis. Thailand was probably the only country in which Dean had a pleasant stay.

It appeared that when Dean came to Thailand he did not play much of a role, but behind the scene he meddled. He can be regarded as the only foreign ambassador who was able to gain easy access to Thai Government agencies. This became evident when General Athit Kamlang-ek, heir to Gen Prem Tinsulanon's political fortune, decided to compete with Gen Prem. Athit had not considered doing so until 1984, when the military politically exploited the repercussions of the credit curb imposed in December 1983 to push Gen Athit to the political summit. There was a campaign to discredit the government's solutions to the economic problems. The military joined hands with the opposition Chat Thai Party, and Gen Prem, as prime minister, was under great pressure.

While all these political activities went on, people watched with great interest to see who would emerge victorious. Dean's role began in mid-1984. He hailed Gen Prem as a government leader with great ability to properly solve the

country's economic problems. The political game of the military and the Chat Thai Party then followed with a campaign to extend the term of service for Gen Athit. Then the Chat Thai Party, with the military's cooperation, tried to pass a no-confidence motion against the government and Gen Prem himself, but the move was aborted because of the prime minister's illness.

Ambassador Dean visited Gen Prem at his Sisao residence often, showing readiness to conveniently provide him with medical treatment in the United States. On another occasion, Dean lobbied for and the U.S. President indeed expressed support for the Thai Government's devaluation of the Thai currency late last year. It is obvious that Dean is very experienced in the political game--to the point of being able to convince the U.S. leader.

While the crisis was continuing, Dean not only frequently visited Sisao residence, he also had free access to senior military brass, such as Lieutenant Generals Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Phichit Kunlawanit.

Many have commented on the repercussions in Thailand of Dean's transfer to India and on what will be the U.S. policy to be implemented by Dean's replacement. Most believe the U.S. policy toward Thailand will remain unchanged despite the ambassadorial transfer and despite the ambassador being transferred because of his excessive support for the host government's leader. This is because the United States is well aware that Gen Prem is still popular with the Thai people. As for rumors about a government reshuffle, Gen Prem will head any reshuffled list as prime minister and defense minister. What is also important is that the United States still supports democratic government, not dictatorship. Whoever is appointed U.S. ambassador to Thailand will continue to favor Gen Prem. Therefore, a change in ambassadors will not have that much significance.

In sum, Dean has always been sincere to Gen Prem in past situations in Thailand. He was practically "carrying" Gen Prem. This display on Dean's part has not pleased the military lately and could be a reason for his transfer--because he was meddlesome and took sides. According to known information, Dean's replacement will be William Brown, deputy assistant U.S. secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs, who quietly visited Thailand late last year and secretly met several Thai military leaders. In any event, in 3 years under the new U.S. ambassador there is not likely to be any change in U.S. policy toward Thailand. It is natural that his image and conduct of duty might be different from his predecessor and it is anticipated that he will neither be as meddlesome as Dean nor will he take sides as Dean did.

CSO: 4207/120

THAILAND

SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCES REJECTION OF SAUDI OIL DEAL

BK020153 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Thailand has rejected a Saudi Arabian proposal to sign another long-term oil deal, Foreign Ministry spokesman Sawanit Khongsiri said yesterday.

The spokesman said Thailand's stand on its future oil supply was conveyed to the Saudi Government during a recent high level meeting between Foreign Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila, Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Suli Mahasanthana and Adbudady H. Taher, chief of Saudi Arabian oil agency, PETROMIN.

Saudi Arabia had proposed during the talks that Thailand enter into a long-term agreement and warned that it might not be able to supply oil at current prices if there was a shortage or if other factors caused the price to rise.

Mr Sawanit said the Thai delegation cited the prices and the payment period as well as Thailand's ability to produce oil and natural gas to meet some of its demand as the main reasons for declining to accept the Saudi Arabian proposal.

Mr Suli told the BANGKOK POST earlier that Thailand had insisted that a new oil deal should contain a more flexible pricing formula and contractual volume and a clause under which Thailand could call off the contract whenever it deemed appropriate, or reduce the purchase volume.

The last long-term oil contract with Saudi Arabia involving a daily contractual supply of 65,000 barrels per day expired on 31 December.

Mr Suli, during his talks with the Saudi Arabian oil agency chief, said that Thailand would be interested in entering a new long-term contract only if the price was more competitive and the terms and conditions were agreeable to Thailand.

CSO: 4200/482

THAILAND

VOFA EXPANDS LAO, VIETNAMESE, CAMBODIAN CASTS

BK020339 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 2 Feb 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] Bangkok-based Voice of Free Asia will tomorrow launch what observers see as a "wavelength offensive" towards Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea by broadcasting daily programmes in the three Indochinese languages except on weekends.

The first programmes will include exclusive interviews with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, president of the resistance coalition government, and Prime Minister Son Sann. The prince's activities inside Kampuchea next week will also be aired in the Khmer language.

The launching of the Vietnamese, Laotian and Khmer radio programmes on Voice of Free Asia marks a shift from the Thai and English language programmes which have dominated the radio's broadcasts all along.

The shift towards audience in Indochina will also be accompanied by improvements of programmes in the Vietnamese, Khmer and Laotian language broadcasts, each of which from tomorrow on will take up half an hour every weekday, up from three days a week at the moment.

The radio station had started broadcasting programmes in the Indochinese languages in October, 1983 on a trial run. Each of the language programmes occupied only ten minutes daily.

The introduction of the programmes in Vietnamese, Khmer and Laotian languages reportedly drew substantial feedback from the audiences in Indochina.

It prompted the radio station, which is powerful enough to reach listeners beyond the three Indochinese countries, to increase the programmes to half an hour a day three days a week for each language last August. The Thai and English-language programmes which have been broadcast every day were then reduced from one hour daily for each language to half an hour, the sources added.

The increase drew more positive responses for the staff and after six months, the American-built radio station will further increase the time for Indochinese-language programmes beginning tomorrow.

"Formerly, we aimed at the Thai audiences in the countryside which cannot be reached by Radio Thailand, but as of last year the national radio station stepped up its transmission power to reach all the remote areas and it just happened that we started to think that the VOFA should effectively serve Thai foreign policy, which is so much involved with the three Indochinese countries," an informed source told THE NATION.

He said that the 1,000-KW radio station, the most powerful medium-wave radio station in the region, would stress differences between Thai society and those of the three countries and try to reach the people directly instead of transmitting news stories in the same fashion of Radio Thailand broadcasts on the activities of Thai Foreign Ministry leaders and other diplomatic activities concerning Thailand.

"But we will continue to base our programmes on facts," a source said. However, another admitted: "Once in a while we will have to resort [as published] to the propaganda from the other side."

The sources said that the radio station had started to step up beaming special programmes about Sihanouk's visit here, underlining his personality and status as "national leader." Part of his interviews in English and Khmer was broadcast earlier this week and the rest will be aired early next week.

The special programmes on Sihanouk's visit will include his planned visit to a refugee camp in Surin, a ceremony in which he will receive credentials from newly accredited ambassadors at a Khmer Rouge-held zone known as Phum Thmey, and interviews with Princess Monique as well as some refugees, according to the sources.

The sources said that feedback started to flow in after the station put up a P.O. Box (2/131 Ratdamnoen) last year. Most of the feedback has been received from Indochinese refugees particularly the Laotians, according to the sources.

"Some of the leaders we received called on us to increase the time for the Indochinese-language programmes. Some Khmer listeners also thanked us for keeping the Khmer language and cultures. We feel that at least our efforts help keep their hopes alive," one source told THE NATION.

According to diplomatic sources in Vientiane, the Lao-language programmes were monitored by a sizable number of Laotians, some of whom reacted by expressing doubts why the Thai-Lao border issue had been played up.

Beginning tomorrow, the Khmer-language programmes will be broadcast during 8-8.30 [1300-1330 GMT] pm, the Lao-language programmes during 7.30-8.00 [1230-1300 GMT] pm and the Vietnamese-language programmes during 8.30-9.00 [1330-1400 GMT] pm every weekday.

CSO: 4200/482

THAILAND

ECONOMIC MINISTERS BODY SETS BUYING GUIDELINES

BK290147 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 29 Jan 85 p 19

[Excerpt] As part of continuing "buy Thai campaigns," the Council of Economic Ministers yesterday approved a set of more stringent guidelines for government units and state enterprises to buy local products. The guidelines include the formation of a central body in the public and private sectors for monitoring procurement financed from state budget.

In the public sector, the central body will serve as the coordinator for procurement by government and state enterprises with emphasis on promotion of local products. The Prime Minister's Office will serve as the central body in this sector.

The Association of Thai Industries will serve as the central body in the private sector. It will be the coordinator for producers of goods with the responsibility covering quality and standard controls, prices, deliveries. It has to receive complaints from producers for screening before proposing to the public sector's central body.

The Prime Minister's Office will draft regulations over procurement for government units and state enterprises. Existing regulations will be revised to be realistic, practical and clear for implementation. This will lead to efficient consumption of local products. The new regulations will have to be proposed to the Cabinet for approval as soon as possible.

After they are in force, all government units and state enterprises have to strictly abide by the new rules. The council also instructed that when local manufacturers find any procurement with the intention to circumvent the regulations they can report to the central body in the private sector which will coordinate with its counterpart in the public sector.

The council also instructed the Industry Ministry to revise and modify [the] buyers' handbook, particularly for products which have received quality standard certification or examinations. The handbook will be distributed to all government units and state enterprises.

In case of foreign procurement financed by borrowings, the council instructed the Finance Ministry to hold negotiations with lending sources to relax their

regulations so that Thai products can be promoted. However, consideration will be made on other factors and conditions.

The council also instructed government units and state enterprises to require private contractors to use products with standard quality if they award contracts to private firms. The guidelines also cover the awarding of concessions and investments in any field.

Minister of the Prime Minister's Office, Michai Ruchuphan, is entrusted with the responsibility to draft new procurement regulations to be completed for approval within 30 days.

CSO: 4200/482

THAILAND

NEW NAMES FOR BORDER CAMPS

BK010221 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 1 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] The army yesterday announced changes in the names of the following Kampuchean refugee encampments along the Thai-Kampuchean border:

- Dangrek encampment becomes Taloke encampment
- Samlar Chhnganh encampment becomes Prasat Sbeng encampment
- Sa-ngae encampment becomes Kampue encampment
- Nong Samet encampment becomes Ritthisen encampment
- Nong Chan encampment becomes Perachan encampment
- Nong Pru encampment becomes Phum Thmei encampment
- Thap Phrik encampment becomes Phnum Malai encampment
- Khao Din encampment becomes Angkor Bal encampment

CSO: 4200/482

THAILAND

UNHCR SAYS ATTACKS ON BOAT PEOPLE DECLINE

BK020220 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 2 Feb 85 p 5

[Text] Pirate attacks against Vietnamese boat people who arrived in Thailand last year generally decreased from the year before, according to a bulletin issued by the Bangkok office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

It said the most significant decline was in the percentage of arriving boats attacked which fell from 53 percent in 1983 to 36 percent last year.

The bulletin said the decline could be a result of a higher proportion of Vietnamese refugees arriving last year along the eastern coast where piracy has for some years been less of a problem than along the southern coast.

The number of abductions (usually of young women less than half of whom are later traced and recovered) fell from 93 in 1983 to 82 last year and the total of rape victims, excluding abductees, also decreased from 95 to 68, the bulletin said.

Arrivals of boat people in Thailand declined from 3,384 in 1983 to 3,077 last year, it added.

But the bulletin said that deaths due to piracy rose from 42 in 1983 to 59 last year.

It said the statistics were compiled from reports of arriving Vietnamese refugees.

The Royal Thai Navy and the police are presently carrying out an internationally-funded anti-piracy programme in the Gulf of Thailand. A total of 12 donor countries last year provided U.S. \$3.6 million to the programme which will continue through June this year.

CSO: 4200/482

THAILAND

PRAMAN WARNS SECOND FARMERS' PROTEST POSSIBLE

BK020144 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] The Cheat Thai Party leader yesterday issued a warning of a second round of farmers' protest in Bangkok if the government fails to respond positively to the farmers' demands.

Party leader Maj-Gen Praman Adireksan said that farmers who earlier this month held a three-day demonstration in front of Government House made three demands before they dispersed and returned to their farmland.

The demands are: Raising the price of 5-percent rice to 3,500 baht per ton; freezing fertiliser prices at pre-devaluation levels; and rescheduling the repayment of loans extended to farmers by the Bank of Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives [BAAC] from April to September.

"But so far none of the three demands has been fulfilled by the government," said Praman, adding that "the prices of fertiliser have gone up and there is no response from BAAC."

Blaming the government for inefficiency and failure to uphold the interest of farmers, he said the party decided to send a letter to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon urging him to take action immediately to solve the farmers' problems.

"If there is a protest this time, I doubt whether we will be able to keep them under control," he warned.

CSO: 4200/482

THAILAND

NSC CHIEF VIEWS U.S., USSR, PRC 'RIVALRIES'

BK020335 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Feb 85 p 18

[Text] The power play among the three major powers--the United States, the Soviet Union and China--seeking extension of their national interests is affecting the stability of Southeast Asia and the security of countries in the region.

Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, secretary-general of the National Security Council [NSC], yesterday explained the interests and objectives of these three powers during lunch to the Social Welfare Council of Thailand.

He identified the following developments as affecting various regions:

--Rivalries for power and influence between the superpowers have affected small developing countries with some of these countries becoming proxies for one or the other of the big powers to further that power's interests.

--Propagation of the communist ideology with efforts to change political and administrative systems by either violent or subversive means.

--Conflict between Islamic sects spreading to countries with Muslim populations.

The interests over which there is such serious competition are concerned with security, political and economic gains.

Sqn-Ldr Prasong gave a country-by-country summary of the political, economic, military structures and interests of the U.S., the USSR and China.

He pointed out the importance of the role of the American people in the U.S. system.

In comparing the relative strength of U.S. and USSR forces, he mentioned that the U.S. has 2.1 million military personnel, the USSR 5.05 million, and China 4.7 million. Because of lesser numbers, the U.S. has to compensate with developing high-technological weaponry, including nuclear capability so that it would not be second to the Soviet Union.

The NSC secretary-general said that the Soviet Union intends to communise the world taking over as leader of currently free countries in various regions, and encircling China, another communist power.

As a closed society with control over its people and supervision over its media, the Soviet Union has been able to allocate considerable portions of the budget to building armaments and obtaining technology through secret deals or espionage.

China, Sqn-Ldr Prasong reported, is combining capitalist methods with socialist measures to achieve the objective of "four modernisations" by the year 2000.

In foreign affairs, China has adopted an independent line, promoting closer relations with Third World countries and maintaining a balance of power with the U.S. and the USSR. From the U.S., China needs technology. Despite differences, it is trying to maintain good relations with the USSR, particularly in trade and communications.

Because it considers Southeast Asia where there are large numbers of overseas Chinese strategic to its interests, China is interested in developing relations with the U.S. to keep Soviet domination out of the region and also in promoting cooperation with ASEAN to oppose Soviet and Vietnamese encroachment.

The NSC official said that China hopes that Vietnam would break away from the Soviet Union.

He noted that tensions between China and the USSR have lessened and said that there would be more exchange of visits among the leaders of China, the Soviet Union and the U.S.

The main obstacles to improved relations between China and Russia are the Soviet-supported Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea, the military confrontation along the Sino-Soviet border, and the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

Describing similarities between the Afghan and Kampuchean situation, the NSC official remarked that both sides of the two conflicts felt that time was on its side and, as a result, there appeared to be little chance of an early political settlement in either case.

In Afghanistan the Soviets face heavy resistance from Afghan nationalists while in Kampuchea the Vietnamese face strong resistance from the Kampuchean nationalists.

CSO: 4200/482

THAILAND

UN SECRETARY GENERAL HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE 1 FEBRUARY

BK020438 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 2 Feb 85

[Text] UN Secretary General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar ended his official visit to Thailand. He left yesterday afternoon. Before leaving for Malaysia, his excellency Mr Secretary General held a press conference at the Oriental Hotel. Here is his opening remarks to the gathering.

[Begin Perez de Cuellar recording] May I express my deep gratitude to his Majesty the King and the Royal Thai Government for their kind invitation and their very warm reception in Thailand. I have had both here in Bangkok and in Chiang Mai the most detailed, informative, and useful talks.

The first phase of my visit to Southeast Asia, which began here a week ago and has also taken me to Vietnam, has now ended. The first phase has ended; I shall visit Malaysia, Indonesia, and Singapore in [words indistinct] and only then shall I be able to make a full assessment. Meanwhile, you will, I am sure, want me to tell you what has been achieved so far, whether I am optimistic or pessimistic. These are the usual questions.

Well, let me say this. I came to this region as a man of peace in order to evaluate the situation and to see how I could help the parties involved try to settle peacefully the tragic conflict of division of Southeast Asia. I cannot impose a solution upon them. This is not my role. But I have attempted to find common ground, if any, and I have put myself at the disposal of the parties. All of them have told me they want peace. All of them have said they support my efforts. It would be naive of me to think that a quick solution to solve (?a complicated) problem would be easy, or even possible, in the near future. But I have transmitted to their leaders important messages of peace. I am carrying with me clarifications which I think will be very useful in helping each side understand the other's points of view. I think it is time to move from words to deeds, and I stand ready to assist all [words indistinct] find common ground for a dialogue towards a negotiated settlement in Southeast Asia. My appeal to all is the same: to stop confrontation and start talking [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Asked, Mr Secretary General to tell more of what clarification he is carrying Mr Secretary General says that:

[Begin Perez de Cuellar recording] Well, you certainly realize that those clarifications are for the benefit of all countries concerned. Yesterday, I had the privilege of flying with the distinguished prime minister, General Prem, from Bangkok to Chiang Mai and then I conveyed to him some of the--all of the--clarifications I got from the other side, and the clarifications were concentrated mainly on the five points of the Ho Chi Minh City communique of 18 January 1985. I dealt with all points which in my opinion needed clarification, including that particular point. But I would like to tell you what I told to all my interoffices is that in my capacity as secretary general of the United Nations I have to be very careful in not interfering in the internal affairs of member countries and that is why in this particular subject I have to be very careful. But I think all the clarifications I have asked for were for the benefit of the other parties concerned, including the Thai Government, the Malaysian Government, the Indonesian Government, and so on. [end recording]

Question about Vietnamese shelling of civilian camps had been asked, and the answer of Mr Secretary General is that:

[Begin Perez de Cuellar recording] You know that the position of the United Nations, my personal position, is very strong on that particular point. Now, my duty as Secretary General of the United Nations is to defend the civilian populations and I have raised this problem, this question, in Hanoi more than once in more than 6 hours of my discussions with the Vietnamese leaders. And even today, I was in contact with the Vietnamese Embassy in Bangkok in order to seek protection for the civilians in Thai territory. [end recording]

Some more questions have been raised:

[Begin recording] [unidentified journalist] I am sure you have asked Hanoi why they continue to oppose the UN resolution on the Cambodian issue and why they continue to oppose, to cooperate, within the international conference on the Cambodian issue. What were their answers on that?

[Perez de Cuellar] Well, you know very well what is their position, which is I must say very consistent, that they don't accept the UN General Assembly resolution. On the basis of the UN General Assembly resolutions about that they don't agree with the resolution itself. The UN General Assembly resolutions are recommendations, they are not mandatory resolutions.

[Unidentified journalist] Mr Secretary General, from what you saw in the refugee camps, do you see any basis for the need for greater humanitarian aid to the refugees?

[Perez de Cuellar] Well, I am glad to tell you, to take advantage of your question, to say that I have this morning received from the American ambassador...[changes thought] I have here the note. I have received today a new pledge where the U.S. Government to contribute U.S.\$2 million to the UN Border Relief Operations. And I have to add that the Japanese Government has pledged the same amount of money. I think that these two contributions, I hope, will set a good example for other countries and they will keep

contributing to our efforts. And I would like to say that I am extremely proud of what we are doing, the United Nations is doing, in the border and I have to pay tribute to my colleague, Mr [name indistinct], who is working extremely well in order to alleviate the fate of the people from Cambodia and even those of Thai people who are victims of the situation at the border.
[end recording]

That was UN Secretary General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar at the press conference held on 1 February at the Oriental Hotel in Bangkok.

CSO: 4200/482

THAILAND

PARTY LEADER PROTESTS CAMBODIANS' USE OF BANGKOK

BK011011 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 1 Feb 85 p 32

[Text] Secretary-General of the Social Democratic Party Khlaeo Norapati today submitted a protest note to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon against allowing Bangkok to be the venue for a summit meeting of the coalition partners of Democratic Kampuchea this month.

In the protest note, the Khon Kaen MP expressed deep concern that Thailand was the frontline state in receiving the effect of the situation in the neighbouring countries.

"Thailand is a land of Buddhism. We want to live in peace. If the government allows Bangkok to be the venue for a meeting of the three Democratic Kampuchean factions, it would be like bringing war into the country.

"It also would be tantamount to openly declaring war with Vietnam," the protest note said.

He cited the trouble in Lebanon which had been caused by the presence of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) as an example.

Thailand has already given shelter to more than half a million Vietnamese, Lao and Kampuchean refugees--already a heavy burden, the protest note said.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, said yesterday that there would be a meeting in Bangkok of the three coalition partners this month.

CSO: 4200/482

THAILAND

MILITARY OFFICER ON BURMESE BORDER SITUATION

BK291423 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Colonel Thawisak Khetsari, representative of the Joint Operations Center of Supreme Command Headquarters, disclosed that there have been continuous clashes between Burmese and Karen forces along the Thai-Burmese border in the past. He said:

[Begin Thawisak recording] At present, Burmese troops are using military force to suppress the Karen National Union in the area opposite Tak Province from Tha Song Yang District to Mae Sot District including six camps. Mae Tha War, (Mae Salit), Maw Po Kay, (Mae Ao Ka Lu), (Wan Kaeo-wan Kha), and (Ha Lu). Burmese troops have been able to capture only one Karen camp, Mae Tha War opposite Tha Song Yang District of Tak Province at the beginning of January 1985. Although Burmese troops have tried to attack other Karen camps, they have been unable to seize any others.

Thai authorities arrested 2,774 Burmese nationals in 1983 and 3,241 in 1984, an increase of 467. Judges imposed penalties on 2,294 Burmese nationals in 1983 and 2,391 in 1984, an increase of 97. [end recording]

CSO: 4207/120

THAILAND

BRIEFS

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, TRADE--Thailand last year enjoyed a surplus of 10,588 million baht in the balance of payments against a deficit of 18,078 million baht registered in 1983, according to the director of the governor's office of the Bank of Thailand. The surplus was due to higher exports and lower imports during the period. Exports last year amounted to 174,000 million baht, representing an increase of 19.9 percent in comparison to 1983, imports totaled 240,000 million baht, increasing by only 4.1 percent from the previous year. In 1984, the country suffered a trade deficit of 7,000 million baht as against 89,237 million baht the previous year. [Summary] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 24 Jan 85 BK]

INSURGENT SURRENDERS IN SOUTH--According to the Radio Thailand reporter in Pattani, at 1100 today Panare District officer Klom Yangaphai brought Ta-eng Chema, a Pattani United Liberation Organization member, to surrender to the governor of Pattani at the provincial seat. Ta-eng is 33 years old and completed the second grade at a Panare school. He fled to the jungle in 1976 and operated in Panare, Mayo, Sai Buri, and nearby Pattani Districts and in some districts of Songkhla, Yala, and Narathiwat Provinces. He surrendered because he realized that he was a victim of deception, had no freedom, and was unable to endure the hardships of hiding. He wanted to earn an honest living and become a good citizen. He brought with him an M-16 and 200 rounds of ammunition. Welcoming Ta-eng, the governor of Pattani said the government is always ready to welcome and to treat well anyone who wants to surrender to become a good citizen, begin a new, prosperous life; and help develop his locality and the country. Others who want to surrender may contact local and provincial officials. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 25 Jan 85 BK]

NO END TO VIETNAMESE OFFENSES--National Secretary Council Secretary General Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri commented on the fighting in Cambodia this dry season. He said that Vietnam still has a chance to attack Democratic Kampuchea. Fighting inside Democratic Kampuchea will continue because Vietnam wants to wipe out Democratic Kampuchea by the end of this year. However, sweeping Vietnamese drives against Democratic Kampuchea in the past were not successful. When Vietnam overran Khmer refugee camps, the Democratic Kampuchean side scattered its forces into small groups in order to return to launch counter-attacks. The Vietnamese capture of Ampil camp does not mean that Democratic Kampuchea is defeated; the fighting will continue. [Text] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 30 Jan 85 BK]

AGREEMENT ON MEKONG--Thailand yesterday signed a U.S.\$2 million agreement with the United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] to develop the lower Mekong basin. Mr Praphat Pinmani, the Thai member of the Interim Mekong Committee, represented the government in the signing ceremony. Deputy UNDP regional representative D. M. Thorup and Mekong Secretariat chief Galan Magdi co-signed the agreement. Laos and Vietnam recently signed the agreement which covers the sixth phase of the UNDP's institutional support to the Mekong Committee which began on 1 January and will last until 31 December, next year. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jan 85 p 3 BK]

CSO: 4200/482

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

MINISTER OF JUSTICE COMMENTS ON NEW CRIMINAL CODE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Nov 84 p 3

[Article by Minister of Justice Phan Hien: "The Criminal Code Systematizes the Party-State Policy on Criminal Cases in the New Revolutionary Stage"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] Our people are now in the initial stage of the transitional period. The struggle between two roads--socialist and capitalist--is keen and desperate in all aspects of social life. In collusion with U.S. imperialism and other reactionary forces, the Chinese expansionist hegemonists are waging a manifold war of destruction against our country.

Our country's economic situation has overcome severe ordeals but is still beset with difficulties. The Sixth Party Central Committee Plenum stated: "The progress and development of economic management are not yet uniform, vigorous and fundamental. Economic management is still showing numerous shortcomings and weaknesses including protracted and serious ones in various fields which have not been corrected in time in accordance with the new situation."

The concepts, psychological traits and habits of the exploiting class and former society have not yet been wiped out completely while social evils and the reactionary culture's venoms are still existing.

While the majority of people and cadres are changing their ways and maturing, a number of persons faced with the onslaught of bourgeois concepts have failed to keep up their revolutionary nature and ethics. Some cadres have become degraded, degenerate and depraved and have misused their power and oppressed the masses.

To carry out socialist transformation, build socialism and defend the fatherland, our party and state have to take political, ideological, economic, administrative and organizational measures. Measures taken in criminal cases will effectively back up all the said measures and are, therefore, highly important.

To date, our state has promulgated many documents on criminal law which have proven effective and contributed to implementing revolutionary tasks in each phase but all of which have been isolated ones and have each dealt only with a single or few topics. Generally speaking, these documents have neither been hegemonious and uniform nor have covered all types of crimes and some of them are no longer suitable for the present situation.

It is urgent to compile and promulgate a criminal code that contains uniform and concentrated provisions on all problems relating to crimes, penalties and application of punishments and that comprehensively reflects our party-state policy on criminal cases in the new revolutionary stage. Such a criminal code must be a sharp instrument of proletarian dictatorship and ensure the party leadership, the laboring people's right to collective ownership and the effectiveness of state management. It must thoroughly reflect requirements of the fulfillment of two strategic missions and, during the initial phase of the transitional period, contribute to the simultaneous conduct of three revolutions, to the building of a new regime, economy and culture and to the formation of the new socialist man.

The National Assembly preliminarily passed the general section of the criminal code in its June 1983 session and the section on crimes in its June 1984 session; it will officially pass the code in the near future.

The criminal code clearly illustrates our party-state standpoint on crimes and punishments.

/Crimes/ are acts that endanger the society. For the sake of what rights and interests and for whose benefit will any act be considered dangerous to society? In the exploiting states, crimes are violations of the politicoeconomic system and social order established by the exploiting classes. In our state, crimes are acts that violate the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the fatherland; that violate the socialist state regime and the socialist economic and ownership systems; that violate the life, health, freedom, honor, human dignity, property and other fundamental rights of the citizens; and that violate other aspects of socialist order and law.

Crimes must be determined by law. If any act is not defined as criminal by law, it cannot be dealt with like that which is committed in a criminal case.

Unlike the exploiting states, /punishments/ in our state are not of a vengeful nature. Punishments are designed to educate and transform culprits into honest citizens and to prevent them from committing further crimes. As for other people, punishments will have a deterrent effect by preventing evil-minded persons from committing crimes and will contribute to heightening the broad masses' awareness of law and to motivating everyone to participate in preventing and opposing crimes.

Criminals act under different circumstances; when committing crimes, they are inspired by different motives and goals and they use different tricks leading to different consequences. Whenever many persons take part in a crime, each plays a different role. /The prosecution policy formulated/ in the criminal code is designed to make prosecution appropriate to and highly effective in each case.

Severe punishments must be meted out to masterminds, leaders, stubborn opponents, hooligans and recidivists, to deviant and depraved persons who misuse their functions and power to commit crimes, and to those who commit organized crimes with the intention of causing serious consequences. Those who sincerely repent, give themselves up, denounce their accomplices, accomplish some feat to atone for their sins and voluntarily correct or compensate for the damage done will be treated leniently--that is, in each particular case, punished less severely than usual or exempted from criminal responsibilities or penalties. To provide encouragement and conditions for convicts to satisfactorily perform labor and undergo reeducation, the criminal code lays down the conditions for penalty reduction or imprisonment curtailment for persons who repent sincerely; persons sentenced to life imprisonment may also be granted a sentence mitigation [if they do so]. The criminal code also sets the conditions to cancel the cases of persons having served their sentences and undergone a test period; those who are thus exonerated will be considered to have a clean record.

In pursuance of the policy on criminal affairs which has been stated in general terms, the criminal code determines specific crimes and the penalties to be imposed. In view of the criminal situation in the past years and the possible development of crimes in the forthcoming ones, the criminal code must list all criminal acts without omitting any, especially serious ones. Under our regime, the scope of the criminal code may be somewhat limited considering the power of social opinion, the effect of education and man's ability to improve. Indictment conducive to punishment may be unnecessary concerning certain infractions of the law if they can be dealt with through social, administrative and civil measures and if these measures suffice to help maintain social order and security and emphasize the sense of responsibility and discipline of cadres and people.

Due to the manifold sabotage schemes and acts of the enemy from without and to the comeback schemes and acts of the class enemy and reactionaries from within, /attempts on national security/ will happen frequently. The criminal code punishes, first and foremost, /especially dangerous crimes/ which violate the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of our country and which endanger the existence of our state and socialist regime. These crimes are counterrevolutionary and include betrayal of the fatherland, subversive activities, espionage, rebellion, terrorism and sabotage. These crimes must be punished most severely; out of 15 envisaged crimes, 9 may draw sentences up to the death penalty.

Though devoid of counterrevolutionary objectives, some other crimes also endanger national security. They include aircraft and ship hijacking, organizing and coercing others into fleeing abroad, intentional disclosure of and trading in state secrets, and manufacture and circulation of counterfeit money. These crimes must also be dealt with most severely.

In its two forms--state and collective--, the socialist ownership system is the basis of socialist economy, the foundation and strength of our regime and the source of comfort and happiness for our people. In recent years, /violations of socialist ownership/ have increased in number and gravity. Attention must also be called to the fact that a notable number of criminals were cadres and employees of state agencies and social organizations. In the present situation, defending socialist ownership is one of the primary important tasks. The criminal code severely punishes violations of socialist ownership. The forcible appropriation, theft and swindling of socialist property may draw sentences as harsh as life imprisonment; sentences ranging to the death penalty may be passed on the seizure through robbery, and the embezzlement and destruction of socialist property.

Under the socialist regime, human beings are the most precious asset. Therefore, our state considers it most important to defend human rights and democratic freedoms as stated in the Constitution. Beside punishing /attempts on human life, health, dignity and honor/--especially punishing very severely murder, intentional injury leading to serious consequences, rape and so on--the criminal code punishes /violations of citizens' democratic freedoms/ including corporal freedom, right to work and vote, freedom of assembly and association, liberty of conscience and men's and women's equality in all respects. The criminal code also provides for the protection of /citizens' rights in the matrimonial and family sphere and rights to their lawful property./ It is noteworthy that due to the vestiges of feudal concepts and the influence of bourgeois ideology, violations of the law on marriage and family are still rather prevalent at present. It is absolutely necessary to struggle firmly against these acts mainly, however, by distinguishing between right and wrong, by making criticism and by providing education to help the offender to perceive his/her mistake and voluntarily to correct, rebuild and strengthen the damaged relationships. Measures appropriate to criminal cases will be taken only if really necessary and penalties will generally be milder than those passed on other crimes.

Socioeconomic development is one of the important tasks of our state. The criminal code must contribute to ensuring the success of socialist transformation and construction, to strengthening and perfecting new production relationships, to developing the production forces and to consolidating and strengthening the socialist battlefield in all socioeconomic domains.

The "who will vanquish whom" struggle is being waged desperately and the enemy is sabotaging us everyday and at every moment in all fields, especially in economic matters. Therefore, the criminal code must

struggle resolutely and vigorously against sabotage activities and punish severely exploiters, speculators, smugglers, counterfeiters and persons disrupting the socialist market including deviant cadres and personnel who lend a helping hand to illegal traders and thieves to siphon out state and collective property.

Improvements have been made in socioeconomic management but certain things are only taking shape and sometimes do not keep abreast of the situation. On the one hand, it is necessary to ensure the central level's right to exercise centralized and unified leadership over the basic aspects of nationwide socioeconomic management; on the other, the party and state must develop the creativeness and right to take the initiative of all sectors, levels and especially production installations in their production and business activities. It is necessary to oppose bureaucracy, cumulative functions and sluggish conservatism while eliminating dispersion, parochialism, lack of discipline and lack of organization. The actual situation calls for careful examination of infringements of the socioeconomic management order; this must not be done with excessive strictness and generalization but no slackening is permissible either. In dealing with wrongdoings in socioeconomic management, severity must be shown but the organizational level, the cadres' standard of knowledge and objective difficulties must be taken into account. Hence the criminal code considers as crimes only such acts as infraction of state economic regulations, raising of illegal funds, submission of false reports on economic management and violation of regulations on distribution and so on whenever these acts are deliberately carried out for personal benefit and lead to grave consequences for the national economy. Clear distinction must be made between cases requiring only administrative measures and those to be dealt with according to the criminal law. Any act previously subjected to administrative measures but subsequently repeated will be considered criminal.

Along with the maintenance of political security, it is necessary to maintain public order and security with the aim of ensuring a wholesome, peaceful and happy laboring life for the people and establishing and enforcing the socialist order in societal life--an order which illustrates the new culture in which the new man is the master. For this reason, the criminal code specifies what constitutes /infringements on public security and order/; it also determines /infractions of administrative management order/ with a view to ensuring correct implementation of the regulations and decisions of competent state organs, thereby increasing the effectiveness of state management.

The effectiveness of state management depends in large measure on whether the persons entrusted with official affairs correctly fulfill their duties and wield their power. Most cadres and employees of the state and social organizations have displayed virtues such as diligence, thrift, integrity, justice and impartiality but many of them have evaded responsibilities, misused their power, oppressed the masses, become corrupt, received bribes and carried out underhand dealings with

people earning their living by illegal means. The resolution of the Fifth Party Congress pointed out "the need to deal severely with cadres and employees who misuse their functions and power to break the law." The criminal code specifies case of /criminal misuses of functions/ and especially provides that harsh punishment be meted out to persons taking or offering bribes and those acting as bribing intermediaries. To punish even bribers is to aim at thoroughly preventing corruption. However, if a briber takes the initiative to report to the authorities before the bribery is disclosed, according to the relevant circumstances, he will be held guiltless or exempted from criminal responsibilities and given back the whole or part of the bribing money or property.

It is all the more necessary for judiciary cadres (in charge of inquiry, control, trial and sentence execution) to set good examples of justice and impartiality, to respect and defend the truth and to elevate the concept of obedience to the law. This is the first condition for the soundness of judiciary activities. After defining /violations of regulations on judicial activities/, the criminal code passes appropriate punishments on judiciary cadres who incriminate innocent people, who issue a judgment or decision contrary to the law, who resort to torture and coercion to make people testify, who illegally detain or release people and so forth. The criminal code also defines the criminal responsibilities of persons who are not judiciary cadres but are related to judiciary work (such as defendants, witnesses, experts, defenders) for the acts of submitting false documents, making false statements and bribing or coercing others into supplying untrue documents, into making false statements and into refusing to execute sentences or hampering their execution.

Our party and state are paying special attention to building a regular and modern army with great combat strength and constant readiness to defend the fatherland. The army owes its strength to many factors but primarily to the self-conscious discipline and tight organizational spirit of cadres and soldiers. Self-conscious discipline and strictness are the characteristic qualities of soldiers of a revolutionary army and are the good traditions of our army. Strict observance of discipline everywhere and under all circumstances is required of all members of the army. The criminal code defines /military crimes/ in order to contribute to strengthening discipline in the army and increasing its combat strength.

Our people have been and are the direct victims of the criminal act of sabotaging peace, instigating and waging wars of aggression, and anti-human crimes. The protracted, hard and heroic struggle of our people has had the effect of motivating the world people's movement to strongly condemn the above-mentioned crimes and has thus contributed to developing international law. In defining the /criminal act of sabotaging peace and anti-human crimes/, the criminal code confirms our party-state standpoint and has a political and juridical significance at home and abroad.

As an instrument designed to prevent and strongly oppose crimes, the criminal code must, in essence, correctly reflect our party-state policy on criminal affairs in the present revolutionary stage and must be written and expressed in a simple and clear manner so as to be easily understood by the people. The Council of State authorizes the publication of the draft section on crimes which has been preliminarily passed by the National Assembly so that public agencies, social organizations and the people may contribute their views. This necessary and useful move is intended to perfect the criminal code and prepare for its submission to and official passage by the National Assembly in the near future.

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CSO: 4209/159

AGRICULTURE

FAILURE OF GRAIN COLLECTION IN SOUTHERN PROVINCE ANALYZED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Nov 84 p 3

[Article by Dang Xuan Mai: "Why Did Song Be Fail To Meet Its Grain Target?"]

[Text] To consolidate the position of strength of an eastern province in south Vietnam in the past years, Song Be has made much effort in solving their grain problems in order to meet the needs of the people in the province and in the meantime to discharge its grain duties vis-a-vis the state. In both 1982 and 1983, Song Be has reached and surpassed the state grain collection target. Although the quantity of grain collected is not great--it nearly equals that of a key rice district in the Mekong delta--given the conditions prevailing in the province, Song Be's achievement means a commendable effort of the party organ and the people.

Entering the 1984 grain year, Song Be received from the state a grain collection target of 30,000 tons (an increase of 5,000 tons over 1983's). Since the start of the year, the province has adopted many policies and measures to boost grain production by intensive cultivation and added crops, primarily in southern districts, by increasing the planting of rice as well as of subsidiary crops, and by struggling to reach in 1984 a total output of 190,000 tons of grain converted to paddy equivalent (an increase of 22 percent over 1983). By so doing, the province would create favorable conditions to meet the local demands in grains and to accomplish the missions entrusted by the state.

However, as of early November, a time pretty close to the end of the 1984 grain year, the whole province of Song Be has collected only less than 20,000 tons of grains converted to paddy equivalent, or only two thirds of the planned target.

Why did Song Be fail to meet the collection target? The following is the result of our analysis.

First, in terms of objective causes, this year's Song Be grain planting area decreased nearly 10,000 hectares compared with 1983. Of significance, upland rice planting and subsidiary crops planting areas were reduced due the expansion of state rubber farms in accordance with the long-term

economic development of the province and of the Rubber General Department. A side effect of this situation was that the province's population increased over 40,000 people because the working force from other provinces was moved to work the state rubber farms. Consequently, local grain needs also increased accordingly. On the other hand, per the comrades leaders of the Song Be Grain Service, every year cadres, employees and workers of departments, branches, districts and state farms in the province engaged individually in production and saved thousands of tons of grain which were accounted as part of the grain collected for the state. But this year, this amount of grain was not credited as part of the grain collected for the state. But this year, this amount of grain was not credited as part of the grain collection results and affected to a certain extent the province's collection. Add to this the unfavorable weather conditions such as the heavy downpours and subsequent floods in Tan Uyen District and the drought in many other places, and insects and diseases in certain localities, which adversely affected productivity and output. Because of these reasons and although rice output of the winter-spring and summer-fall crops had an average of 30 quintals per hectare, an increase of over 2 quintals compared with the 1983 average for both crops, the estimated general output of grain converted to paddy equivalent for this year will reach only 180,000 tons (92 percent of the annual plan). This output directly affected the grain collection obligations with the state.

In their analysis and evaluation of this year's grain collection and its low results, the comrades leaders of the province and of the Song Be Grain Service have specifically put emphasis on the subjective causes that led to the above situation.

First, it is fair to say that since the beginning of the year, the agricultural collectivization movement in Song Be Province has gone through many good changes. The linking of land readjustment with the strengthening and building of new groups of cooperatives, and product contracting have attracted many a farmer into collectivized production. Nevertheless, the movement's development has been slow and not homogeneous in the localities. So far the entire province has collectivized only 39 percent of households and less than 40 percent of cultivated land. Because half of the farmer households and of the land area still engage in individual, piecemeal production (the great majority concentrated in rice key districts in the south of the province), production leadership and the application of technical measures in intensive cultivation and in crop augmentation have encountered many difficulties. Consequently, the increase in rice output is slow, still low and precarious, the intensive cultivation models with high productivity cannot be multiplied to form a movement, etc., and the whole situation adversely affect the general grain output of the province.

Besides, because production areas in the province are still large, the province is experiencing difficulties in managing and in collecting grains and commodities among the people. The application of the investment policy under the two-way economic contract in order to boost production and to purchase grains is not running smoothly. The collection

of agricultural tax and the liquidation of old debts are not resolutely resolved and create accumulated accounts receivable for many years and hence fairly large losses for the state. According to the comrades leaders of the Song Be Grain Service, even in 1983 when Song Be exceeded the state grain collection target, the quantity of grain collected for agricultural tax and two-way contract debts reached only less than 50 percent of the plan. This year, the province has so far collected only 3,700 tons for tax and over 4,000 tons for two-way contract debts. 5,000 tons for tax and over 3,000 tons for two-way contract debts have yet to be collected.

The realities in Song Be demonstrate that wherever agricultural collectivization has a strong, developing movement, chances are that grain obligations with the state are well done. Examples are the two districts Loc Ninh and Phuoc Long which have basically completed collectivization and which did grain collection well several years in a row. Loc-Ninh District in particular had collected 4,800 tons as of the end of May 1984 reaching 107 percent of the target and achieving a 6-month over-quota completion of grain collection. This district has fulfilled its grain collection obligations for 6 successive years. As of now, Loc Ninh has collected 5,142 tons of grain (compared with a 4,500-tons target), and Phuoc Long District has exceeded a grain collection target of 5,000 tons. In the meantime, the two districts that have the highest collection targets, Tan Uyen and Ben Cat (each is 6,500 tons) have respectively collected only less than 1,600 tons and over 2,600 tons. The principal cause is their weak collectivization movement in terms both of quantity and quality.

Another problem of prime concern for the province is that in recent years, the cultivation of subsidiary crops was not paid enough attention. With the characteristic weather and soil conditions in eastern south Vietnam, Song Be has a great potential to develop the cultivation of subsidiary crops and to contribute to resolving its grain situation. Its ratio of subsidiary crops in the total grain cultivation structure was as much as 50 percent in certain years. But in recent years, because of investment policies, purchasing prices, and inappropriate transportation and processing, production of subsidiary crops has been declining. In 1984, of the 20,000 tons of grains collected by the province, there were only over 5,500 tons of subsidiary crops. Experience in Loc Ninh in the past years has shown that the district has step by step removed the obstacles in the production and processing of subsidiary crops and therefore, the subsidiary crops ratio in grains collected for the state was over 50 percent.

On the other hand, in this year's grain collection in Song Be, the grain sector still has many shortcomings in its leadership in using the various services and in the lack of flexibility and appropriateness in fixing purchasing prices. Many localities have not resolutely made adequate changes in their management structure, purchasing organization and grain transportation system. Likewise, readiness in terms of money and

commodities is not commensurate with the peculiarities of each locality. All these weaknesses tend to limit productivity and grain collection capabilities and prevent the spread of a real enthusiasm among farmers in their grain obligations vis-a-vis the state. Their effect on the overall performance of the province is not negligible.

Through their grain collection tasks in 1984, Song Be has learned many good lessons for the preparation of their forthcoming 1985 production and grain collection plans.

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AGRICULTURE

NATIONWIDE RICE COLLECTION REPORTED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Dec 84 pp 1, 4

[Article: "The Whole Country Harvests 1,248,590 Hectares of Tenth-Month Rice; The North Does Wet and Dry Plowing and Sows Enough Seedlings; The South Steps Up Sowing and Transplanting of Winter-Spring Rice"]

[Text] VNA--In the last week, the localities took advantage of the favorable weather to repair the damage caused by flood, typhoons and whirlwinds and to step up the tenth-month rice harvest and start the winter-spring crop. They have harvested 422,720 more hectares of tenth-month rice, bringing the area harvested since the beginning of the season on 25 Nov to a total of 1,248,590 hectares. They have also planted 192,430 hectares of vegetables, subsidiary crops and short-term industrial plants.

In the north, localities affected by storms and whirlwinds continued water drainage, finished up the tenth-month rice harvest, sowed and planted winter crop plants, and got themselves ready for the winter-spring crop intensive cultivation. As of 25 Nov, localities in the north had harvested 1,006,000 hectares of tenth-month rice, reaching 77 percent of the areas sowed and transplanted. The provinces of Ha Nam Ninh, Thai Binh, Cao Bang, Lang Son, Thanh Hoa, Nghe Tinh, Binh Tri Thien and Hai Phong suburbs have almost completed their harvest. In the last few days, Ha Nam Ninh has concentrated its efforts in fighting waterlogging and in harvesting 24,000 flooded hectares of rice, avoiding their complete loss. This year's tenth-month crop has been characterized by a drought at the outset, destruction by insects and diseases in mid-season, and storms and whirlwinds at its end. Nevertheless, due to their continuous intensive cultivation and their staunch efforts to fight natural calamities, the provinces of Ha Son Binh, Ha Nam Ninh and Thai Binh have obtained a tenth-month rice output which was only slightly inferior to that of the 1983 crop. The latter, considered a bountiful one, had only between 70 to 140 kgs more per hectare. According to initial estimates, a certain number of provinces such as Vinh Phu and Quang Ninh, have obtained a fairly good tenth-month rice output which exceeded last year's tenth-month crop from 70 to 200 kgs per hectare. In parallel with making their utmost efforts to harvest rice, localities have actively assisted areas hit by rainstorms with seeds and capital

to plant short-term vegetables and subsidiary crops. As of 25 Nov the north had planted 138,610 hectares of vegetables, subsidiary crops and short-term industrial plants, sowed more than 30 percent of seedling areas, and transplanted 20 percent of the winter-spring crop area.

In recent days, because of slow water draining and lack of seeds, many localities were behind schedule in planting vegetables and subsidiary crops. Localities, primarily those flooded, need to determine early enough areas to be wet and dry plowed and to formulate plans accordingly. These plans include repair of water conservancy works damaged by flooding, water filtering, water retaining for the winter-spring crop, and mobilizing tractors to do earthworks quickly, in cooperation with draft cattle. This year the weather has been very capricious. Therefore localities should follow its changes closely in order to give proper directives in terms of seed preparation and sowing to ensure sufficient seedlings. Owing to the support extended by the electricity, water conservancy and industrial sectors, localities have tried hard in fighting waterlogging and drained more than 133,000 hectares of tenth-month rice to expedite the harvest and to create favorable conditions for the winter-spring crop.

In the south, localities have harvested 242,384 hectares of tenth-month rice and sowed and planted 54,270 hectares of vegetables, subsidiary crops and industrial plants. Flooded provinces have tried hard to do well the winter-spring crop and to take good care of tardy tenth-month rice to compensate for losses. Up to now, the south has transplanted 50 percent of the area and 20 percent of winter-spring rice. Generally speaking, the plowing, sowing and transplanting speed in the south has been a little bit better, but as the necessities of the agricultural season require, localities should accelerate the pace of their work for the winter-spring crop and plant more short-term vegetables and subsidiary crops.

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CHRONOLOGY

CHRONOLOGY 16 SEP - 15 OCT 1984

Hanoi VIETNAM COURIER in English Nov 84 p 32

[Text]

SEPTEMBER

18-20. A delegation of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs visits Vietnam.

19-24. A delegation of the Communist Party of Japan, headed by Fuwa Tetsuzo, Chairman of the Presidium of the Party Central Committee, pays a friendship visit to Vietnam.

19-27. Ahmet Mostefaoui, Director of UNICEF for Asia and Pakistan, pays a visit to Vietnam.

20-22. The Hanoi Literature and Art Association holds a conference attended by 238 delegates representing the more than 500 members of the Association.

20-29. A delegation of the Agriculture and Food Industry Commission of the CPSU visits Vietnam.

21-26. Le Duan, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee pays an official visit to India.

22. Inauguration of an addition to enlarge the Vietnam Institute for Agricultural Technology and Science, built with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

25-27. Holding in Hanoi of a seminar on capital construction at district level.

26 Sept-3 Oct. A delegation of the Czechoslovak State Planning Commission, headed by its Vice-Chairman Karel Jelinek, visits Vietnam.

28. Hanoi: Signing of a protocol on goods exchange and payment for 1985 between Vietnam and Hungary.

28 Sept-10 Oct. Georges Sarre, National Secretary of the French Socialist Party pays a friendship visit to Vietnam.

OCTOBER

1-4. Vietnamese Minister of Foreign Affairs Nguyen Co Thach visits Japan.

3. Vice-Chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers Tran Quynh stops over in Thailand on his way home from India to hold talks with Bichai Rattakul, Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.

3-6. Holding in Hanoi of a national conference on district building. On this occasion, the Secretariat of the CPV and the Council of Ministers launch an emulation movement for "building the district all-sidedly, steadily and vigorously."

307. A Vietnamese Party and State delegation, headed by Vo Van Kiet, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers leaves Vietnam to attend celebrations of the GDR National Day.

7. Holding of the Second Sports Festival of the capital city.

8. A Vietnamese Party and State delegation, headed by Vo Van Kiet, Political Bureau member, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Planning Commission, pays a friendship visit to Algeria.

10. The SRV Council of State confers a Gold Star Order on Hanoi, a Ho Chi Minh Order on the City's armed forces and a Ho Chi Minh Order on its public security forces.

--30th anniversary of the liberation of the capital. A mass rally and military parade is held in Hanoi.

13. Setting up of a National Preparatory Committee for the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students and a Vietnam Committee for the UN International Youth Year 1985.

CSO: 4200/455

END